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The Martlet

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Rally marked 37th anniversary of invasion of Tibet

by Adrienne Mercer

Over 100 people gathered in support of Tibet Saturday, March 9, one day before the 37th anniversary of China's invasion and illegal occupation of the independent state.

Protestors met under the China Gates at Fisgard and Government, then marched to the legislature bearing "Free Tibet" placards and giving information to passers-by.

"Free Tibet – I'd go for that!" said one woman as the small but vocal protest passed her on Government Street. A few people joined the rally, and several vehicles honked in support as the group neared the legislature.

Before the March 10, 1949 invasion, Tibet was a fully independent state. The invasion left 1.2 million Tibetans dead and 5000 temples and monasteries destroyed. The Chinese occupation and routine human-rights abuses in Tibet have been denounced worldwide. According to the Canada Tibet Committee, "In 1960, the International Commission of Jurists declared that China had committed genocide in Tibet and that 16 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were being violated."

At the legislature, the Victoria chapter of the Canada Tibet Committee unfurled a flag and held it aloft.

Judy Love, a member of the Victoria chapter of the Canada Tibet Committee, said there was some debate whether to start the protest at the China Gate. "Our fight is not with the Chinese people, but the Chinese government," she said. "The gates symbolize harmonious friendship and harmonious peace, and what better a thing to wish for Tibet?"

A small but vocal group of protesters rallied for Tibet March 9.

David Connell photo

Love gave an inspired speech about the injustices that are happening to the Tibetan people. "The Chinese [government] never has to prove what they say, but no one believes what Tibetan refugees say without proof," she said.

Love was shocked to see Prime Minister Chrétien and nine premiers of this country welcoming the Chinese Prime Minister to a gala dinner in Montréal. She said "Local media did not cover the demonstrations against this man, only the gala. Only the CBC covered the rallies and protests."

The Chinese Prime Minister is known as the "butcher of Tianamen Square" because of the 1989 massacre of students in Beijing, China.

"To me, it's obscene to see our Prime Minister doing business with people like that without saying anything about human rights," she said.

Love said she was glad to see Amnesty International representatives at the rally, and mentioned that 90 per cent of prisoners of conscience are Tibetan.

Love was followed by Tsezom Yuthok, a Tibetan woman who spoke on behalf of the group Women Working For Tibetans. Yuthok, a powerful speaker, is a Tibetan refugee living in Vancouver.

"There are definite control measures being administered to limit the amount of monks and nuns in Tibetan monasteries," she said.

"The Chinese government is determined to destroy the religious traditions and culture of Tibet, but unless China totally annihilates the six million Tibetans, support for Tibet will not fade away."

Yuthok thanked protesters for speaking out for Tibet. "Today, over 300 City Halls are flying the Tibetan flag in support of Tibet and in memory of the uprising. This is all across Canada, Europe, and the United States," she said.

T.C. Tethong also thanked supporters on behalf of the Tibetan people, and condemned former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney for accepting a job as an investment advisor to the People's Republic of China.

"I do not want to insult the Canadian government or the Canadian people," Tethong said. "There are some people without morality, but if this [rally] was in my own country, I would have been taken away and locked up by now. I wouldn't be able to say a word." ❑

A small but mighty voice for a free Tibet.

David Connell photo

A history of human-rights in Tibet

In 1959, 1960 and 1965 the UN General Assembly passed resolutions 1353, 1723 and 2079 condemning Chinese human rights abuses in Tibet and calling on China to respect the Tibetan people's rights, including the right of self-determination. In 1991, the UN Human Rights Sub-commission passed a resolution expressing concern at the threat to "the distinct cultural, religious, and national identity of the Tibetan people.". Freedom House, a New York-based human-rights group, declared that among all the occupied territories in the world, Tibet ranks as the worst case of human rights violations. An Australian human-rights delegation in 1991 determined that Tibet is still effectively under martial law, despite its official lifting in May, 1990. Tibetan women are subjected to mandatory sterilization and forced abortions as a means of reducing the Tibetan population. Electric cattle prods are routinely used to sexually violate Tibetan women, including nuns, who are arrested for their religious or political beliefs. One in 10 Tibetans has been held in prisons or forced labour camps for periods of 10 to 20 years. Today, about 10 000 religious and political prisoners face torture, forced labour and excecution. Discrimination and segregation are openly practiced in areas such as medical care, education, housing, jobs and pay.

Sources: John Avedon, *In Exile from the Land Of Snows*, New York, 1984; *Tibet: The Facts*, a report prepared by the Scientific Buddhist Association for the UN Commission on Human Rights, 1986; *The New York Time*, June 1987. The information in this sidebar is reprinted with the permission of the Victoria chapter of the Canada Tibet Committee. ❑

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Willey nearly disqualified after HSD poster scandal

by Richard Carlson

Director of Services candidate Kim Willey almost didn't get her chance to face the electorate.

According to Tom Sluchinski, co-Chief Electoral Officer, a graduate student accused Willey of ripping down the signs of opposing UVSS election candidates. She was allegedly seen in the Human and Social Development Building on the night of Tuesday March 6, when the posters were removed. The electoral officers would not release the name of the woman who made the charge.

Based on the information, Willey was disqualified from running and not allowed to speak at the all-candidates forum the following night. The committee made the decision without allowing Willey to give her version of the story.

In a lengthy appeal to the electoral committee, the disqualification was overturned due to a lack of evidence, and an apology was given to Willey for any inconvenience. The electoral committee is comprised of UVSS board members to oversee the election. Four electoral officers are hired to conduct the election.

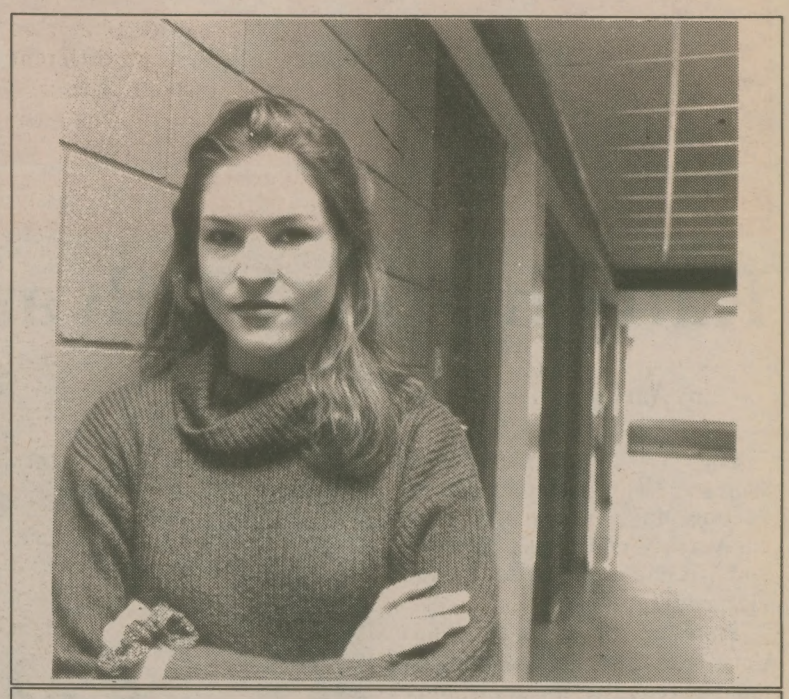
Willey had four witnesses, including present UVSS Director of Finance and candidate Ian Flemington, who testified that they were with Willey at the time and she did not rip down any posters.

"Nothing was done unfairly," insists Sluchinski, who stands by the decision to temporarily disqualify Willey. "We didn't have time to investigate fully before the all-candidates forum and we thought it was not fair to the other candidates for her to talk at the forum."

Sluchinski said something had to be done about posters being torn down. "We have 40 candidates in our office crying about their posters being ripped down," Sluchinski said, "and so we thought we had to take a firm position."

The electoral officers allowed Willey to keep her posters and banners up until the investigation was over. Sluchinski does not think missing the all-candidates forum will hurt her campaign. "By the time she was to speak there were only about a hundred people in the room, all of whom had probably already decided who to vote for," Sluchinski said.

Willey still feels cheated with the time she missed. "If they had just spent an extra twenty minutes looking at this they would not have disqualified me, keeping me out of the forum and three days of campaigning," Willey said.



Willey said her near disqualification is part of a smear campaign.
Andrew Lupton photo

She feels this is just part of a smear campaign directed at her and her running mates. "With the rumours being spread about me and the posters being ripped down, it does seem like there is a sort of fear about the people I am running with and the ideas we represent," Willey said.

In a letter to the editor in last week's *Martlet*, Penny Katzel, UVic First Nations hunger striker, said Willey just "laughed at us as we were being escorted out" of the Liberal Party convention. Willey was a delegate at the Liberal convention.

This is just plain political mud slinging to Willey. "I wasn't laughing at the hunger strikers and I feel their cause is great. I think what they are doing is a way of discrediting me," she said.

Sluchinski feels the campaign has been dirty but insists procedures have been followed. ❑

Andrew Lupton photo

BC Tel set to disconnect

by Adrienne Mercer

In a February 28 meeting of UVic's Safer Campuses Committee, Campus Security reported B.C. Tel will remove several phones on campus that are not making a profit.

Director-at-large Julie Lewis, a committee member, said safety could be compromised if the phones are in periphery areas of campus.

"If someone needs a phone in an emergency situation, and there isn't one available anymore, that's a problem more important than profit," she said.

Ken Marrison, Campus Security manager said, "Right now, just a few phones are affected, but if more are removed, it could be a safety issue."

Dave Murphy, B.C. Tel representative in charge of pay phones at UVic, said the company will only remove two or three phones, one near the UVic daycare and another in parking lot 10.

"They are not emergency phones," Murphy said. "If there is concern about security, UVic administration can arrange for emergency phones through us. We are very aware of and concerned about safety issues at UVic." ❑

Aboriginal students shorted again

by Daniel Tsai

There won't be enough money to meet the needs of aboriginal students in the 1996 federal budget.

Aboriginal post-secondary funding will increase by only three per cent. The federal government stuck to last year's allocation despite pressure from aboriginal groups, including a hunger strike at UVic.

The increase will occur over the next two years. The change in funding accounts for population growth, but not increased demand or potentially huge tuition increases passed on to students by provincial budget cuts.

Penny Katzel, Aboriginal Liaison for the BC Canadian Federation of Students, believes the three per cent increase in federal funding will mean over 1000 aboriginal students across Canada will be unable to attend post-secondary institutions.

First Nations students receive funding under the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSP). The federal government gives money to provinces based on their First Nations population and divides it among bands and other organizations. The government guidelines for tuition and book expenses have not changed since 1989.

Budget cuts are hitting all students. In BC, tuition fee increases are almost certain. The federal government still plans to cut over $400 million from its Canada Health & Social Transfer (CHST) payment to BC for next year. The federal government transfers money to the provinces every year for health, post-secondary education and social security. Post-secondary education funding is, however, a provincial responsibility.

Katzel believes the federal government has a historical constitutional obligation to fund the education of First Nations people. Although the federal government did not increase funding significantly, she believes that the 20-day hunger strike in UVic's SUB was worth it. The hunger strike, by five UVic students including Katzel, ended March 6.

"It reached national attention and tribal councils. Any First Nations organized group was informed of the risk. It united us," she said. Asked if there will be a national protest, Katzel said, "it's in the works already." ❑

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Nader praises Canadian healthcare

by Miko Nico Ross

They have tons of money. They have highly paid executives.

They can buy, and they know how to intimidate. They are the corporate conglomerates of US medicine.

According to Ralph Nader, American lawyer and consumer-rights advocate, Canada's medicare system is the next target of their "unbridled greed, corruption, waste and fraud."

Nader spoke to over 600 supportive listeners at the Victoria High School auditorium on March 7. The lecture was sponsored by the BC Nurses Union as part of their "Stop Cuts to Healthcare" campaign. Nader criticized the deterioration of the American healthcare system, which he attributed to its corporate structure.

"Corporations don't have an ethical requirement to treat patients, they have a commercial obligation to make money. That's the big difference," said Nader.

He said the effort to maximize returns may even result in patient death and injury, as profit-minded administrators shortchange healthcare consumers in a number of ways. Treatments are circumvented and prohibited, as are hospital stays and different kinds of rehabilitation. Nader said doctors and nurses are even paid bonuses for treatments they withhold from patients.

U.S. consumer advocate Ralph Nader says Canadians must fight to protect Medicare from corporate control.
Andrew Lupton photo

Statistics compiled by physicians at the Harvard School of Public Health support Nader's criticisms of the American healthcare industry. They report 80,000 people die in US hospitals every year due to malpractice. More fatalities are attributed to malpractice than homicides, motor vehicle deaths and fires combined.

According to Nader, the healthcare industry is trying to deal with this problem in two ways. They are lobbying government to restrict the legal rights of victims who take hospitals and doctors to court (by pushing for a $250,000 cap on malpractice settlements). Hospitals have also started to add clauses (in fine print) to their admission forms that bind patients to arbitration in situations of malpractice, denying them any other legal recourse.

Nader was also critical of the gross inefficiencies of the American healthcare system. A system that costs Americans nearly 50 per cent more per capita than Canadians pay for Medicare still fails to provide any coverage for one quarter of the population. 100,000 people die every year in the United States for want of medical coverage.

Administrative costs are also higher in the private American system, which could afford to cover all Americans if it ran as efficiently as Canadian Medicare.

Nader highlighted some shortcomings of the Canadian healthcare system. He feels there is not enough emphasis on preventative medicine, and our fee-for-service system encourages over-application of treatments.

He also feels the Canadian healthcare system needs to pay greater attention to chronic illnesses and rural and native communities, which are often neglected.

Despite these faults, Nader praised the Canadian model of healthcare, which he described as universal, comprehensive, accessible and affordable, and "the most efficient and effective in the world."

He cited reductions in federal tax transfers as an attempt by the government to starve Medicare and open the way for the privatization of Canadian healthcare. But Nader's most convincing argument for protecting Medicare was the statement, "The longest wait of all is when you can't afford to pay for healthcare." ❑

Sneaky "slates" dominate campaigning

by [illegible]

This year's Student Society election looks more like a race between political parties than students.

Most of the 37 candidates campaigning for a seat on this year's UVSS Board of Directors have separated into two distinct slates according to the slogans "Stop the Cuts" and "Putting Students First." Slates are illegal under UVSS electoral policy.

"While individuals may work together to further their campaign," the policy says, "official slates are not allowed and candidates shall not distribute or advertise by means of joint material or include multiple candidate names on material."

However, there are ways for determined candidates to bend the rules. Similar posters leave little doubt as to who is working on which team. Classroom chalkboards are also being used to advertise this year's slates.

The results of this technique, which is known as chalkboarding, have been spotted all over campus. The most common list being chalkboarded includes candidates grouped under the "Stop the Cuts" slogan, headed by Sarah Burgess and Julie Lewis.

According to Tom Sluchinski, co-Chief Electoral Officer of this year's elections, chalkboarding is discouraged but not illegal. "Chalkboarding is not allowed if one of the candidates is doing it," Sluchinski said, "but there's no way to enforce this rule. Technically, as long as we don't know who's doing it, there's nothing we can do."

"It might even be a member of another group trying to get some candidates in trouble," Sluchinski added.

Kelly Sundberg, candidate for Director of Academics, and Ian Flemington, candidate for chairperson, helped organize the "Putting Students First" slate. They approached different faculties on campus to find students interested in running for this year's elections. The intent was to form this year's board with representatives of the entire student body.

When asked the difference between an organization like the Women's Centre and another like the fraternity, Scanlan argued that the Women's Centre is a safe place for women and not a club that discriminates.

Sundberg wants continued support for marginalized groups. However, he says he wishes "to include engineers, law students, and commerce students because these are the people that are not getting their $120 worth from their fees."

"The general student body has been neglected by the Board of Directors," Sundberg added.

The students grouped under the "Stop the Cuts" slogan were publicly endorsed by the Women's Centre and the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance (LGBA), as well as other progressive groups. Their platforms maintain they will fight for student rights.

The split between the two sides was heavily apparent during the March 6 Open Candidates Forum in the residence cafeteria. After his initial speech, Sundberg was questioned about his membership in the Delta Epsilon Fraternity, which isn't funded or recognized by the UVSS.

Kathleen Scanlon, who is running for director at large and is sharing the "Stop the Cuts" slogan, openly criticized Sundberg's affiliation with the fraternity. According to Scanlan, Sundberg is a hypocrite for telling students at the forum he would fight to eliminate all types of discrimination, then later admitting he is a member of a fraternity that discriminates on the basis of sex.

"If they open the fraternity up to all people and eliminate discriminatory practices, then I will support them," Scanlan said.

When asked the difference between one organization like the Women's Centre and another like the fraternity, Scanlan argued that the Women's Centre is a safe place for women and not a club that discriminates.

"Fraternities are clubs and the distinction must be made between the two," Scanlan said.

Sundberg tried to make it clear at the forum that while he is a proud member of the fraternity, his participation in Delta Epsilon has nothing to do with his running for Director of Academics.

He also said the fraternity is not a club but a registered society. During the forum he mentioned several charities Delta Epsilon supports locally, including the United Way and the Boys and Girls Club of Victoria.

"These charities do help social justice and society," Sundberg said. "To say they don't disgusts me."

"Social justice is much more important than supporting charity organizations," Sarah Burgess, his opponent for Director of Academics, said. She called fraternities "elitist, sexist, and homophobic."

Sundberg said he was appalled by her obvious disregard of charity organizations. "These charities do help social justice and society," Sundberg said. "To say they aren't important disgusts me."

This incident is only one example of the many attacks going back and forth between the two groups. All in all, at least 26 of the 37 candidates running in the BoD elections fall into one of the two unofficial slates. In the competitions for Director of Academics and Chairperson, there isn't even a third alternative to vote for.

What is clear is that some candidates on the two slates couldn't be further apart ideologically. Those who stand somewhere in between may be forgotten in the next round of UVSS politics. ❑

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Symposium highlights native plants and vegetation

by Gefen Bar-On

A splendid display of BC's native plants and vegetation welcomed participants at the third annual Native Vegetation Symposium.

The symposium included 14 lectures and seminars on topics ranging from "Rare Plants of BC" and "First Nations Perspectives on the Environment" to "Using Native Plants in The Garden."

The event is organized by Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Groups's Native Vegetation Committee. The symposium defined native vegetation as plants indigenous to the northwest of North America. The VIPIRG committee works throughout the year to preserve areas of native vegetation on and off campus.

Out of the rich variety of native vegetation issues covered in the symposium, "First Nations Perspectives on the Local Environment" was especially moving. First Nations presenters Penny Katzel and Mary Vickers offered some deep perspectives on the complexity of their relationship to the environment.

Not all First Nations people share their perspective, however. "Many of our people actually support logging," said Vickers of the Bela-Bela reserve. "No wonder, since logging is their source of income and their hope out of poverty," she said.

Vickers can't understand how some people want to damage the beautiful environment of her reserve. "I want to know what the logging company owners in their silk suits say to their children," she said.

Vickers does not consider herself an environmentalist. "I am just trying to help mother nature," she said. Many First Nations people are concerned that, with the loss of their sacred environment, they will loose their culture. "We still have a rich culture of singing and dancing that we need to celebrate," said Vickers, who accompanied her talk with a traditional chant of love to mother earth. One of her greatest concerns is the loss of traditional plants used for medicine. Vicker's disabled son is using many of these plants for his health. "It is extremely important to preserve and teach traditional medicine for the sake of my children and unborn children," Vickers said.

Native
Plant Garden
The University of Victoria's "Native Plant Garden" was initiated by the Native Vegetation Committee of the Vancouver Island Public Interest Group (VIPIRG). Financial support has been provided by the Graduating Class of 1993 & by fund-raising activities organized by the students involved in the Native Vegetation Committee.
The Native Plant Garden is intended to be an educational resource for various classes in the departments of Biology and Geography and the Environmental Studies Program. The garden is also intended for use by the general public and to foster the use of our native B.C. flora in landscaping.

Symposium educates on native vegetation.

Andrew Lupton photo

Knowledge and awareness of native plants is important for reclaiming land devastated by logging and mining. "Events like this symposium significantly help to increase awareness of the issues of native vegetation and land reclamation," said Doug Pollard of Jones Land Reclamation, a local company participating in the display.

In her presentation "Medicinal Native Plants," Allison McCutcheon, a UVic Biology Ph.D candidate, introduced dozens of native plants valuable for medicine. "It is interesting that many of the plants traditionally used by native people for medicinal purposes were scientifically proven to have anti-viral, bacterial or fungal properties," she said.

The March 9 symposium offered an excellent, in-depth introduction to the issue of native vegetation and plenty of useful information. "We are pleased with the turn out and with the interest people show in the important issue of native vegetation," said Carmel Jorgensen, co-organizer of the symposium.

You don't need to go far to see results. Behind the MacLaurin building the VIPIRG committee is cultivating a beautiful garden of indigenous plants. ❑

Forestry subsidy to offset high recommendation costs

by William Mohns

Your money is helping MacMillan Bloedel profit on Vancouver Island.

Over the next three years the company will receive $5.6 million from taxpayers under the Forest Renewal BC plan. The program provides funds for restoring destroyed areas, job training and investments in value–added approaches to forestry.

The subsidy is part of FRBC's $9.3 million program to implement the recommendations of the government appointed Scientific Panel for Sustainable Forest Practices. The panel examined the Clayoquot Sound area.

The subsidy to MacMillan Bloedel is intended to offset the higher costs incurred by the company in implementing the panel's recommendations. The remainder of the $9.3 million is being used to re—train loggers and fund a symposium near Tofino March 6-8. The symposium will examine alternative logging systems in the Clayoquot Sound.

..."paying them to implement the Science Panel [recommendations] is like paying criminals to change their bad ways."

The subsidy has generated a great deal of opposition from environmental groups. Friends of Clayoquot Sound says "paying them to implement the Science Panel [recommendations] is like paying criminals to change their bad ways." The group refers to MacMillan Bloedel's history of forestry and fisheries rule violations.

Friends of Clayoquot Sound also argue that the financial responsibility for improved logging practices should fall on corporations, not taxpayers. The group puts MacBlo's 1995 profits at $279 million, up 55 per cent since 1994.

Rainforest Action Network cites the latest BC government audit as evidence against MacMillan Bloedel's record. They contend the audit showed the logging giant violated fisheries and forestry guidelines in 75 per cent of the areas under scrutiny. ❑

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US won't give up efforts to isolate Cuba

by Anup Grewal

MONTREAL (CUP) – Early Saturday morning, two flotillas of anti-Castro Americans floated into the Florida straits to lay wreaths for the pilots downed in a recent shooting incident. They were closely tailed by a large escort of American naval and air forces, bolstered for the occasion.

The scene closed a week of US posturing, after Cuba shot down two Cessna aircraft flown into its airspace by the Miami-based, anti-Castro, Brothers to the Rescue.

The ceremony was to show Cuba that the US won't back down on its renewed efforts to isolate the communist government and will maintain its international embargo for Cuba's alleged "human rights violations."

But in Montréal, Cuban solidarity groups held their own demonstration. They protested the American stance on Cuba and its efforts to bully the international community to support its blockades.

"We are hopeful that Canada will stay on the side of Cuba," commented Maurizio Guerrardo, one of the coordinators of the Brigade Quebec-Cuba. "Whether Canada is for or against [Fidel Castro's government], it should accept the sovereignty of a country."

Across the country, other groups are also asking the Canadian government to maintain its ties with Cuba, despite US pressure to join the sanctions.

Cuban support organizations in Vancouver are circulating a national petition asking the Chrétien government not to bow to US muscle-flexing in the UN.

American ambassadors got the UN Security Council to support a statement that, after being watered down, "strongly deplores" Cuba for shooting down the two planes.

Canadian Labour Congress president Bob White sent a letter to Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy in response, imploring him to take a stand.

"The double standard practiced by the United States in continually imposing an embargo against Cuba while it maintains commercial relations with other countries who are violating human rights in an atrocious fashion, must be the subject of international critique."

"We are hopeful that Canada will stay on the side of Cuba."

In Montréal, the effort began about a week before this latest rise in US-Cuban tensions.

The Carrefour Culturel de l'Amitie Quebec-Cuba anticipated that the US would take a hard line against Cuba at the 52nd session of the United Nations Commission of Human Rights. It circulated a petition to L.H. Legault, Canadian Representative to the commission.

"We...are appealing to you to take into account public opinion at home as well as a growing world public opinion which are demanding the rejection of the US accusing Cuba of violations of human rights," the petition read.

In light of the recent shooting, however, countries maintaining ties with Cuba face mounting pressure from the US, which is determined to penalize anyone who sides with Cuba.

A controversial bill introduced by Republican Senators Jesse Helms and Dan Burton last year, to effectively isolate Cuba and its trading partners, has gained new momentum.

The bill would allow any foreign company trading or investing in Cuba to be sued in US courts, and would mandate the American government to turn away any employees of these companies.

Helms said the shooting down of the planes is an "act of terror," which "is a searing indictment of the European and Canadian policies of engagement with Fidel Castro's brutal regime."

Guerrardo said there is no justification for the American rhetoric.

"For the US, human rights are: different political parties, different candidates and the vote. That has nothing to do with human rights. Human rights are things like education for all, that all have something to eat," he said.

"A blockade by the US on Cuba is a human rights violation itself because it is causing a lot of difficulty in Cuba."

But with an American presidential election in the works, this latest incident may be an opportune way for the anti-Castro lobby to re-invoke a hard line on Cuba – a line many Cuban exiles in the US feel has been slipping.

Last year, Clinton and Castro agreed to an immigration policy allowing Cubans with family in the US to enter the country more easily.

This reduced the necessity of "rescuing" Cubans supposedly trapped in "Castro land," and undermined the position of groups like Brothers to the Rescue.

The anti-Castro lobby has been further weakened by the growing desire in the American business community to trade with Cuba.

Guerrardo thus sees the Brothers to the Rescue's latest incursion into Cuban airspace as an "utter provocation" to put Castro back into a bad light.

Guerrardo admitted that it may be difficult now to garner support for Cuba at the UN Commission on Human Rights.

"More than 75 per cent of the media coverage [on the Cuba-US issue] is from the US, and says that the Cubans are criminals."

But Canada looks like it may take a stand against US bullying. The business sector is likely to keep its ties with Cuba, and Chrétien's meeting with members of the Caribbean community in Guyana this week may yield a joint declaration against the position of the US.

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy said, "We are making a number of representations to a wide variety of countriesS... [to get] a broad-based consensus to indicate to the Americans that this is not acceptable." ❑

PCBs on barge cause controversy

by Kate Maloney

MONTREAL (CUP) – Dubbed "the time bomb" by environmental groups, the Irving Whale is a potential environmental disaster waiting to happen.

For the past 25 years, the shipwreck has remained at the bottom of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Now, with last year's discovery that PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) exist in the barge, controversies have erupted, delaying its removal even more.

The barge, formerly owned by the Irving Oil Co., sank while carrying 4,200 tons of oil 60 kilometres northeast of North Point, P.E.I. and west of the Magdalen Islands. The sinkage resulted in the loss of 1,000 tons of PCB-contaminated oil, which washed up onto the shores of the Islands.

Before the discovery of the PCBs, the government planned to remove the wreck in a single, or two-point, power lift. According to Daniel Green, co-president of the Société pour Vaincre la Pollution (SVP) and opponent of the plan, if spillage of the PCB-contaminated fuel oil occurred during the lift, "There would be an uncontrollable loss of containment.... The PCBs would be lost with no possibility of recovery." —

But Vincent Jarry of Environment Canada sees the lifting of the barge as the best method.

"The original plan was the safest [method] for the diver," he said, adding that "it is simple, takes less time, and the stress on the barge is under the critical level."

Greenpeace Quebec and the SVP, on the other hand, believe that, because there is a great risk of spillage, other possibilities should be considered.

Although the government recognized that oil would be lost from the lift – gathering all available oil-skimming equipment in preparation for a large spill – the predicted size of the spill was not made clear to the public. Matthew Bramley of Greenpeace Quebec says if PCBs were released, they would cause a decline in certain species of marine mammals, such as the beluga whale, and would destroy the snow crab fishery.

On June 23 of last year, weeks before the government plan was to be implemented, Irving Oil announced that the barge contained 8,000 kilograms of PCBs before sinking. Shortly after, an injunction filed by the SVP terminated the plan. The amount of PCB material remaining in the Irving Whale and the proper method to remove the barge are still uncertain.

Controversy regarding the proper method has revolved primarily around two possible methods.

"No one in the position of power gives a damn."

The first is the original two-point power lift that continues to be supported by Environment Canada. The other method, proposed by such groups as Greenpeace and the SVP, is to pump the oil out of the barge before lifting it.

Two independent consulting firms and three external scientific experts hired by the federal government are to investigate the issues. But Greenpeace Quebec predicts that the government will choose the least expensive method of removal, which may not necessarily be the safest.

The financing of the operations is also an important question.

The government has already spent much of the $12 million allotted to the plan on preparing for the lift operation, leaving no additional funding for the management of a full-scale spill of the oil and PCBs.

PCBs are one of 12 persistent organic pollutants (POPs). POPs are synthetic materials that evaporate easily into the atmosphere, strongly resist degradation, and are fat-soluble.

PCPs are relatively insoluble in, and heavier than, sea water. Once the PCBs are lost, they are virtually unrecoverable from the ocean floor. Aroclor 1242, the PCB material in the Irving Whale, was used in the heating system to keep the oil in a liquid state during transit.

Although Greenpeace Quebec and Environment Canada strongly disagree as to the appropriate method of removing the Irving Whale, each group believes a significant amount of time was spent by the government, as well as the public, ignoring the wreck's existence.

"No one in the position of power gave a damn," said Bramley

According to Jarry, it was simply a case of when "you don't see something, you don't care about it."

Whether an agreement between the opposing groups will ever be reached is uncertain, but the data gathered by the consultants and scientific experts is expected in mid March. ❑

Why work for peanuts when you can sell them?

Starting your own business is one way to guarantee yourself a job this summer.
If you're a full-time student returning to school this fall and legally entitled to work in Canada, the Student Business Loans Program, part of the government of Canada's Student Summer Job Action program, is offering loans of up to $3,000 to help you start a business.
Details are available at any branch of the Business Development Bank of Canada, Canada Employment Centres, Canada Employment Centres for Students, any branch of the Royal Bank of Canada or the National Bank of Canada.
Just come to us with your idea, and we'll see what we can do about putting you to work for someone you really like. You.
Call toll-free: 1 800 361-2126.

Human Resources Development Canada | Développement des ressources humaines Canada
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Canada

EDITORIAL

There are alternatives

"In this budget, we are keeping on course. We are maintaining our pace. We are not letting up" says Finance Minister Paul Martin of the 1996 Federal Budget.

He says we have no alternative to cutting social programs, if we want to save them. Taxpayers seem to believe him. By and large, government and business have sold the public on Martin-style deficit reduction.

But there are other ideas. The Alternative Federal Budget is released by CHOICES, a coalition for social justice, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, and other organizations. It provides a different vision for Canada's future, and emphasizes employment, education and childcare.

Instead of just whining about cuts, their budget comes up with numbers. It acknowledges the importance of the debt, but challenges our assumptions about how we got it, and how to fight it.

Budgets are not something to be left to beancounters alone. Budgets are a reflection of what we value, and the kind of society we want to live in.

The provincial and UVic budgets will be released soon. They involve making choices, and it's important to remember that no cuts should be considered inevitable.

On the campaign trail

Mud slinging, name calling, defacing of posters. No, this is not a story about life on a preschool playground, its election time at UVic.

Why supposedly intelligent students revert to their childhood during an election campaign is a mystery.

For those who havent figured it out, there are two primary slates: the established women's centre endorsed "Stop the Cuts" slate, and the usual liberal/tory/fraternity "Putting Students First" slate, still looking for its first election win.

These groups have not fully developed the parliamentary party system, or at least not yet. They are still running as individuals with pre-fabricated and pre-written platforms that take all potential personality out of the candidate.

What they are doing is over powering independents who are not interested in just getting elected and having power, but in doing what they can as individuals to help students. Students who want to be elected on their merits - not on the slogan on the bottom of the posters.

What we need at UVic are student politicians with a sense of humour. People who do not believe that tearing down and defacing posters is an acceptable substitute to developing a rational platform. What we need is a UVic Rhino Party. What would be their main election point? Let's trade the Cornett Building for the old Felicita's.

Editorial topics are decided by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Martlet, *L Hut, rm. 55. Editorials are written by one or more staff members; opinions are not necessarily those of all staff.*

The *Martlet* has an open letters policy and will undertake to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be **TYPEWRITTEN** (you can use *Martlet* computers), submitted on disk, or e-mailed, and include your name and phone number for verification. **LETTERS MUST BE 200 WORDS MAXIMUM.** Letters will be reviewed for libel at the *Martlet* editorial meeting, 4 p.m. on the week of publication. **Deadline** is Monday noon. Letters will be prioritized in the order received. Only one submission from the same person will be printed per week. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Letters will not be edited for spelling or grammar. Announcements will be directed to billboards. Letters can be mailed to Box 3035, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., V8W 3P3, dropped off at L Hut, rm. 55 , (by the tennis courts). or e-mailed to martlet@sol.uvic.ca.

No injustice to Quebec

Editors:

The Federal Liberal Government sent the Honourable Stephane Dion to BC to appeal to the hearts of British Columbians to accept Quebec as a "Distinct Society." As laudable a goal as it is to keep the country together, it is high time that the Federal Government put it directly to Quebec that it must make a simple choice between being an equal partner to other provinces in Canada, or to separate.

It is high time the Federal Government stopped mincing its words. It needs to tell Quebecers directly the multitudinous ways that Canada has supported them. There are the financial considerations; during the last several decades, billions of Dollars more each year has gone to Quebec come from the rest of Canada. Over the last three decades, there has been more political power in the form of Prime Ministers and Cabinet ministers from Quebec than their numbers warrant. Quebec, with 25% of the population, only elected 12% of the current government MPs, yet has over half the major cabinet positions including Prime Minister and Finance Minister. In terms of language, Quebec has preserved and sustained its French language, while being in Canada. In the past 30 years Quebec has seen French become an official language from coast to coast. Where is the injustice to Quebec in all that?

Patrick Hunt

New prez for A.I.C.S.

Editors:

Yogendra Shakya was elected co-president of the A.I.C.S in September 1995. Since then, he has refused to attend executive meetings and has carried out several activities in the name of the A.I.C.S. without informing or seeking the approval of the executive. This was in violation of an agreement between Mr. Shakya and the A.I.C.S. Therefore, we have asked him to resign his position as co-president.

The president of the A.I.C.S. as of January 1996 is Ly Tran.

Although we wish to make it clear that the "International Student Scholarship Fund" and the related referendum question are not initiatives of the A.I.C.S, we are not opposed to the project in principle.

Ly Tran, Thomas Ahn, Greg Kacy, Alexandra Killus, Taner Yildrum, Ben Essien, Yoko Okuto, Erin Bryce, Mokua Gichuru

Pissed off at bike thieves

Editors:

I just would like to write to show my appreciation to all those considerate people who insist on stealing my property, thereby putting me in huge debt to start off the summer. First, it was my new rain jacket stolen from a Vikes basketball game, then my uniform taken from the laundry room, and to top it all off, my only mode of transportation, my $1600 mountain bike. The thing that bothers me the most is my bike was stolen at 4:45pm directly infront of the McKinnon Gym. Doesn't anyone notice someone cutting a kryptonite lock, and riding off on a bike without a seat? Actually, I want to thank Tom for taking notice and making an effort to chase after the people who stole my bike. The story is that there was at least two people involved. Once the bike was unlocked one guy ran ahead while the other put on my tire and took off.

Tom assumes that they probably just threw my bike in the back of a truck. If anyone has any information it would be totally appreciated. It is a Cannondale Delta V 600, black and dark green, 21 speed, 21" (about) mountain bike.

Beware to all those unsuspecting bikers, and to those who know how I feel "Doesn't this piss you off!".

Melanie Paas

Showing natural shape

Editors:

I am writing in response to the Feb. 15 issue of *the Martlet*, and the articles about the Gap protest and Eating Disorders. First, I would like to make clear that I understand the position of the people who protested in front of the Gap. Society HAS bombarded us with images of thin people, and told us that thin is "the right shape." My problem with the protest is that, as a thin person, I feel as though I am being told I am supporting the negative messages, by wanting to shop at a store which uses those images in their marketing. What can I say to this? The movement against the fashion industry's "`thin image' advertising" has some validity, in that it encourages women to love their bodies for the way they were born. But what about the people who were born thin? The Gap makes clothing that fits our bodies, that isn't too big. I am tired of being told that my choice in clothing is entirely influenced by advertising. For those of us who are born this way, I want to say, "Look at me! There is nothing wrong with being healthy!" Why shouldn't I wear clothes that show my natural shape? Are you saying "there's something morally wrong" with being thin?

Susan Giles

U.S.A. okay

Editors:

I write in response to a letter captioned, "Americanised system unacceptable", and an article with the headline "Just say no to Yankee-esque anti-drug laws", both appearing in the Feb. 1 edition of *the Martlet*. I do not take exception to the views expressed in each piece, but rather with the implication of the U.S.A as a negative force, taking over the Canadian way of life. In both cases, this negative stereotype of the U.S. is used for alarmist purposes. Mike Chilton's anti-drug law article has nothing to do with America. The U.S. is not mentioned in the articled.

The only reference to America is the derogatory term "Yankee", used in the headline to attract attention.

The American system of education, deemed "unacceptable" in Joel Freedman's letter, is actually less exclusive than the Canadian system. The fact remains that a greater percentage of American high school

The Martlet

Quote of the week:
"Slate is such a loaded term. I prefer to call us 'like-minded friends.'"
— Steve Vander Wal, BoG Candidate

• Aaaaarrrggghhhhhhh •
Adrienne Mercer
Miko Nico Ross
• Bride of fuckin' Frankenstein•
Meesha-puff n' stuff-chan
• Marketing and Revenue Director •
Jess Howard
• News Editor •
Adam Turner
• National News •
Sharon Bennett
• Arts Editor •
Sarah Gorlewski
• Billboards and Classifieds Editor •
Laura Severinac
• Copy Editor •
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graduates go to university than Canadian grads. Their tuition is often more expensive, but their quality of education is high and dozens of American universities have a worrldwide reputation for excellence. Enough with the U.S. bashing already! America ain't a bad place. Visit it sometime and see for yourself.

Jonathan Braude
Dual Citizen

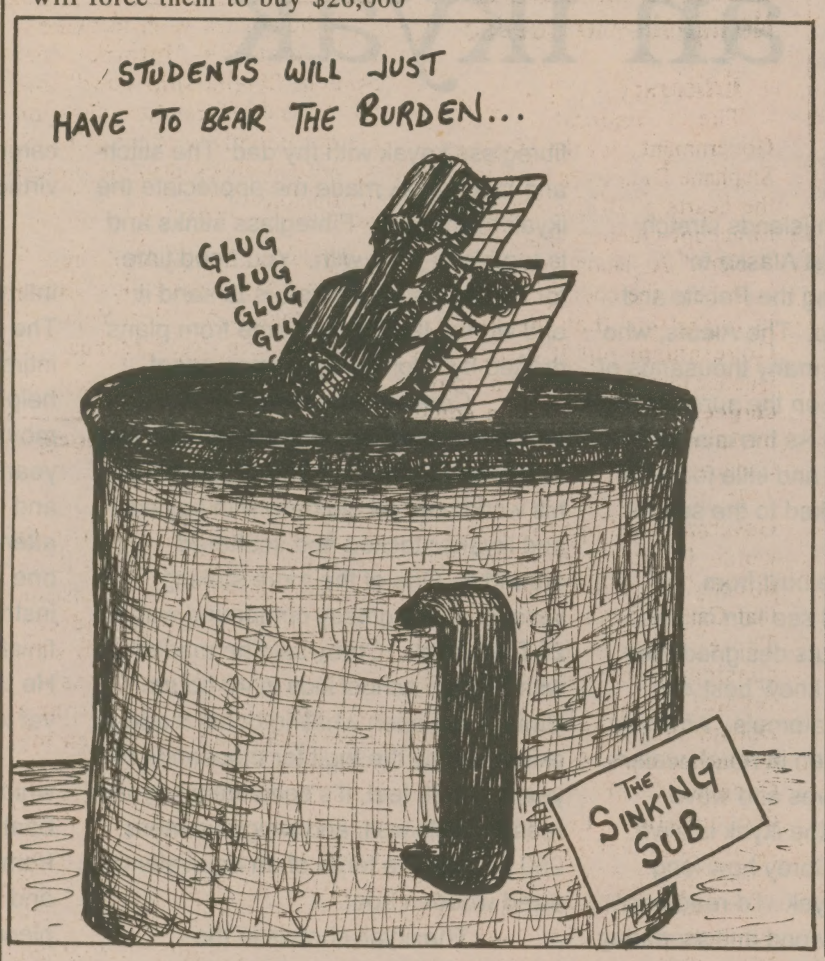
Waste in government

Editors:

I often read *the Martlet* to stay informed on what new and exciting ways the UVSS has found to achieve the highest level of political correctness.

However, the Feb. 1st issue was especially interesting. Page 1 had an article on how much money the government wastes and how this forces the students to bear the burden. It spoke of how the UVSS wants students should speak out and stand up for their rights. Then, page 3 had the coffee debate article. The UVSS has chosen to stop serving coffee from a company that provides free equipment, free service, and free same day delivery. Instead, they want to switch to a company that will force them to buy $26,000 worth of new equipment, doesn't provide free or same day delivery, and whose ability to handle a large contract is in question. Where will this $26000 come from? Well, the students will just have to bear the burden. And why switch? Because the new company claims its beans are "exploitative free". Even though no cases of exploitation can be found with the current company, the BoD still feels the change is necessary. Yes, the same BoD who berate the government for wasteful spending.

Devin Redlich



Soapbox

For students who live in residence, life is supposed to be simpler: little cleaning, no cooking and fees paid ahead so that each month is not a constant worry about where the money is coming from.

Well, not anymore! This year in UVic residence, the cost of living seems to change daily. The cost of making our meals, for instance, has dramatically increased.

As student-in-residence in 1994-1995, I had enough food points to last until the end of the year, with plenty to spare. This year, after paying increased fees for food and housing, we have been required to add over $300 extra during the course of the year. Dollars that we were not advised to budget for. It seems that the only benefits we have received that reflect our increased fees are Easter baskets and a dessert bar (at which one slice of cake costs more than half the daily allotment of points).

Does the phrase, "Let them eat cake" ring any bells?

It gets worse! As of March 1, all students in residence have been charged for vandalized laundry facilities. Yes, you! It doesn't matter whether you did it, or whether you actually do laundry in "Rez" or not. Many of us gave up on our laundry facilities long ago because repairs took too long, and we were tired of paying $2 to $3 to dry one load.

In any case, each resident is being required to pay according to the damage to their facility. For instance, Poole has been charged $1,067.22 for repairs and replaced parts. It is rumoured that if it is not paid, transcripts will be withheld.

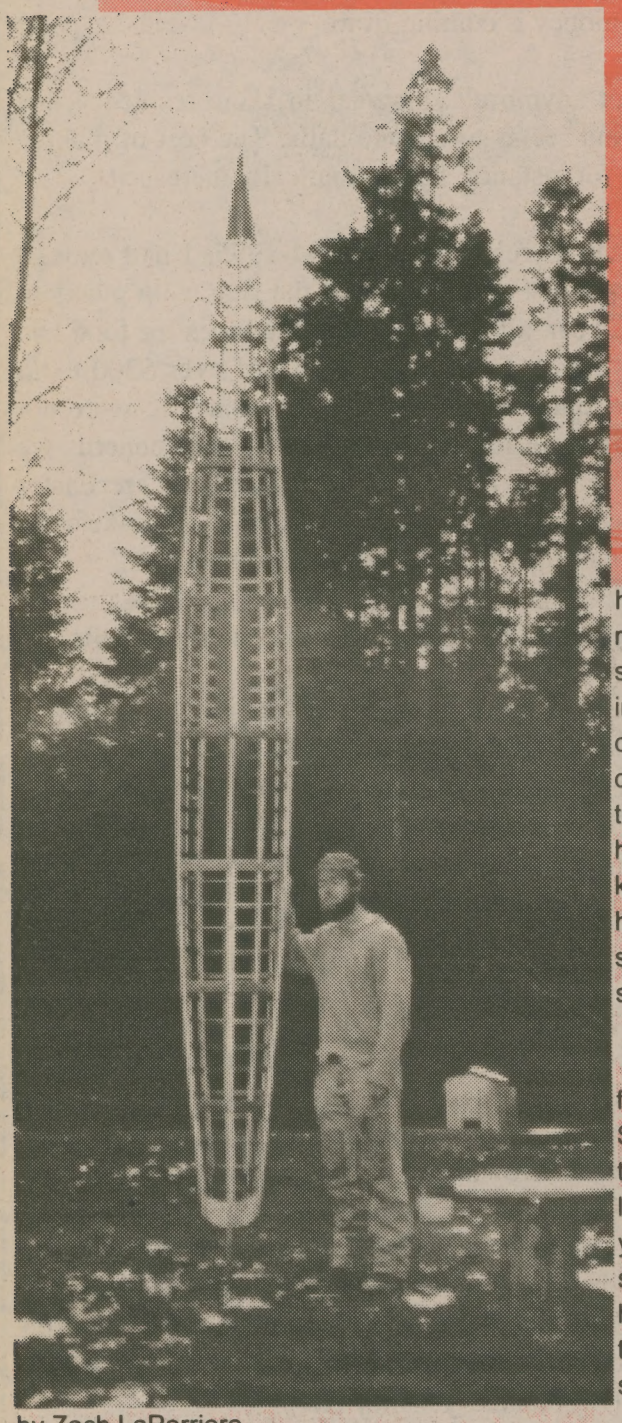
The fact that no students have seen any "busy" workers in the laundry room or any of the "alleged" broken coin slides doesn't matter. They cannot provide "enough evidence to charge **you** - each student - with wilful damage." (Residential Tenancy Act).

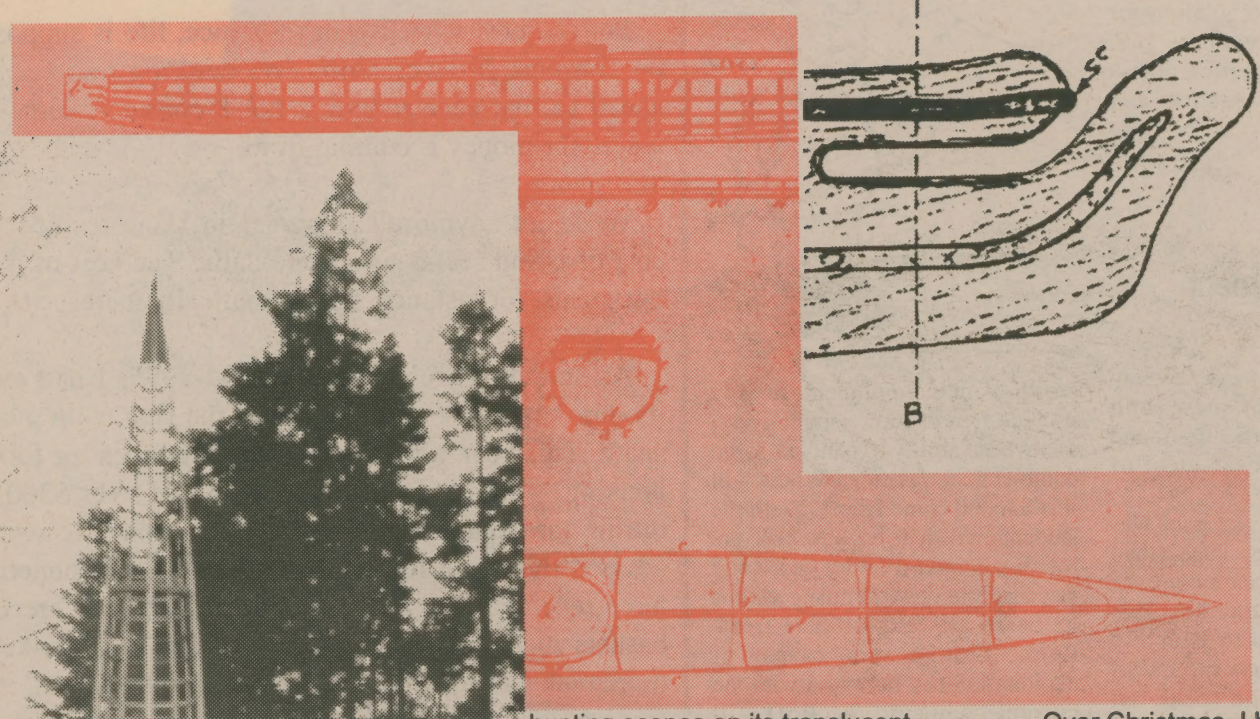
A petition is being circulated to fight the charges for fixing laundry facilities. Ask your floormates/reps about it. Sign your name and begin the fight against those who are trying to suck our finances dry.

Noelani Taylor, residents of 4th Floor Poole.

Soapbox is a venue for Martlet *staff to express individual opinions. Submissions are voted on at Monday's editorial meeting.*

CINECENTA
DOLBY STEREO
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
2:30 MATINEE, 6:45 & 9:15
GOLDENEYE
LATENITE
GOLDFINGER
FRI & SAT LATENITE 11:30 ONLY
SUNDAY & MONDAY
SUNDAY 2:30MATINEE
7:30 ONLY
Les Miserables
MONDAY 5:45 & 9:10
TUES 6:45 & 9:15
FIRST KNIGHT
WED/THURS 7:10 & 9:15
THROUGH THE OLIVE TREES





More than one way an ikyak

by Zach LaPerriere

It all started while riding my bike on the government float. I stood with my bike admiring the Danish circumpolar sailing ship *Dagmar Aaen*, wondering how such a ship found its way into the Inner Harbour. A man came from below and started to tinker with two ikyaks on deck. I'd never see an ikyak outside of a museum in Alaska. What was a traditional Aleut skin boat doing here in Victoria?

I asked the man, figuring a thousand asses had asked the same dumb question. He told me he wasn't part of the ship's crew, didn't know much about the ship, just the ikyaks. He took one of the ikyaks off the *Dagmar* and put it on the dock. I set my bike down and introduced myself. His name was Corey Freedman and he'd built the ikyak in his shop in Anacortes, Washington. The ikyak had dark tattoos of whales and hunting scenes on its translucent red-brown skin. I stuck my head in the small cockpit — dozens of ribs tied with hundreds of knots to three horizontal stringers per side.

The Aleutian Islands stretch from Southwest Alaska to Siberia, dividing the Pacific and the Bering Sea. The Aleuts, who lived there for many thousands of years, hunted on the surrounding stormy seas. As the islands have no trees and little foodstuff, the Aleuts looked to the sea for subsistence.

Ikyaks were built from driftwood, bones, and sea lion or split walrus skin. The Aleuts designed their boats from what they knew best: the anatomy of marine mammals. An ikyak flexes and rotates when in rough waters, compensating for waves and wave troughs. In a sense, the ikyak is alive.

I had to ask Corey how long he'd worked on his ikyak. I'd read once that between finding wood and preparing skin, an ikyak took an Aleut a year. "About a week," said Corey.

Hell, I thought, I've spent that long on a History in Art essay. I then asked how long would it take me, son of a carpenter with no skills, to make an ikyak? "Eight to 10 days," Corey said. He gave me a card and said he'd help me make one.

That summer I paddled a dozen different kayaks, but they were stiff, and none of them fit me. The idea of building an ikyak sat with me for nine months.

Over Christmas, I built a fibreglass kayak with my dad. The stitch-and-tape kayak made me appreciate the ikyak even more. Fibreglass stinks and is terrible to work with. You need time for it to dry, and respirators to sand it; and worse, the design came from plans drafted by a former insurance agent.

Corey picked me up at the terminal in his teetering pick-up with two ikyaks tied to the roof and drove me to his workshop, an old barn with kayaks and ikyaks stacked and scattered around it. One of the more striking vessels on his grassy compound was a 26-foot umiak. Corey said he made it with 15 high-school kids in 40 hours. Umiaks are open whaling boats made of skin, used by the Inuit for thousands of years. At 26 feet, it's seaworthy beyond reason, sails well, and weighs a mere 250 pounds – a tenth of an equivalent-sized wooden boat.

The ikyak shop is in the basement of the barn. Corey lives upstairs with his girlfriend Jen, their dogs River and Chris, and the mischievous cat Pudds. Ikyaks hang from the shop's ceiling, some finished, some ready to skin, some just started.

The next morning we went for a paddle. I took the boat I'd seen on the *Dagmar*. The boat had a tiny cockpit – I had to straight-leg awkwardly into the ikyak and put my weight on the paddle between the beach and the cockpit for balance. I then slid in carefully.

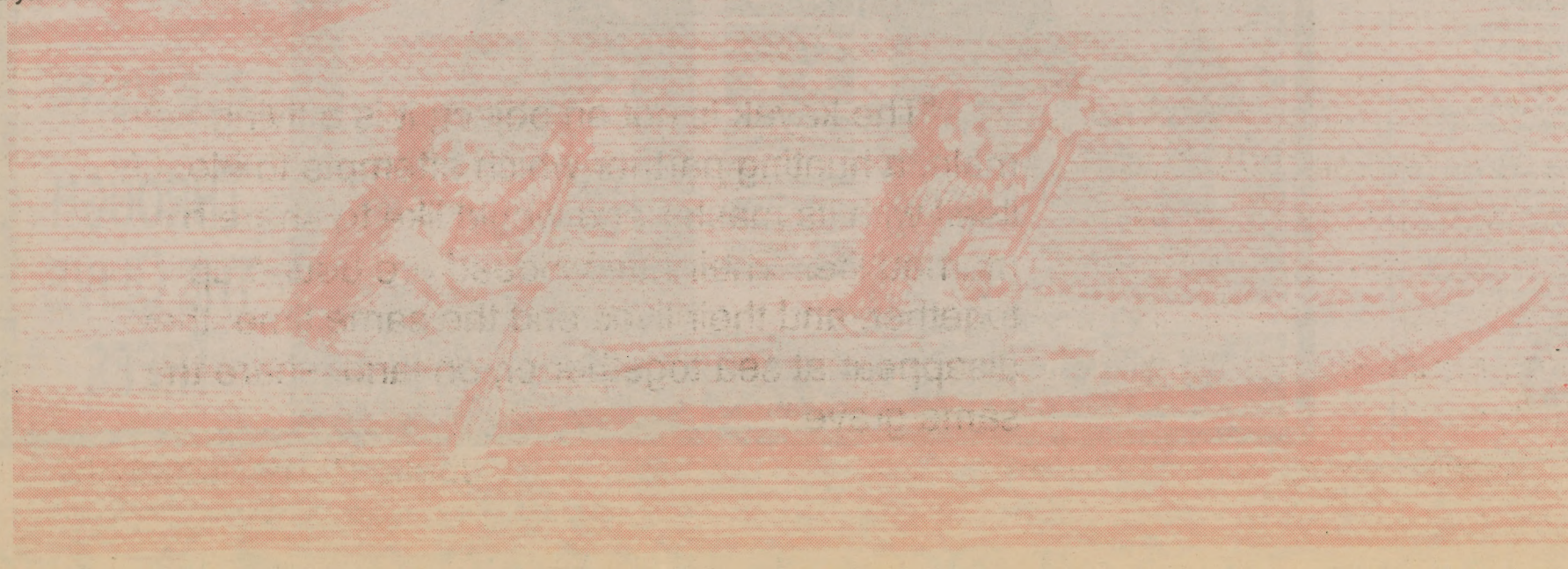
I took it out for an hour and came back to shore convinced of the virtues of this traditional design.

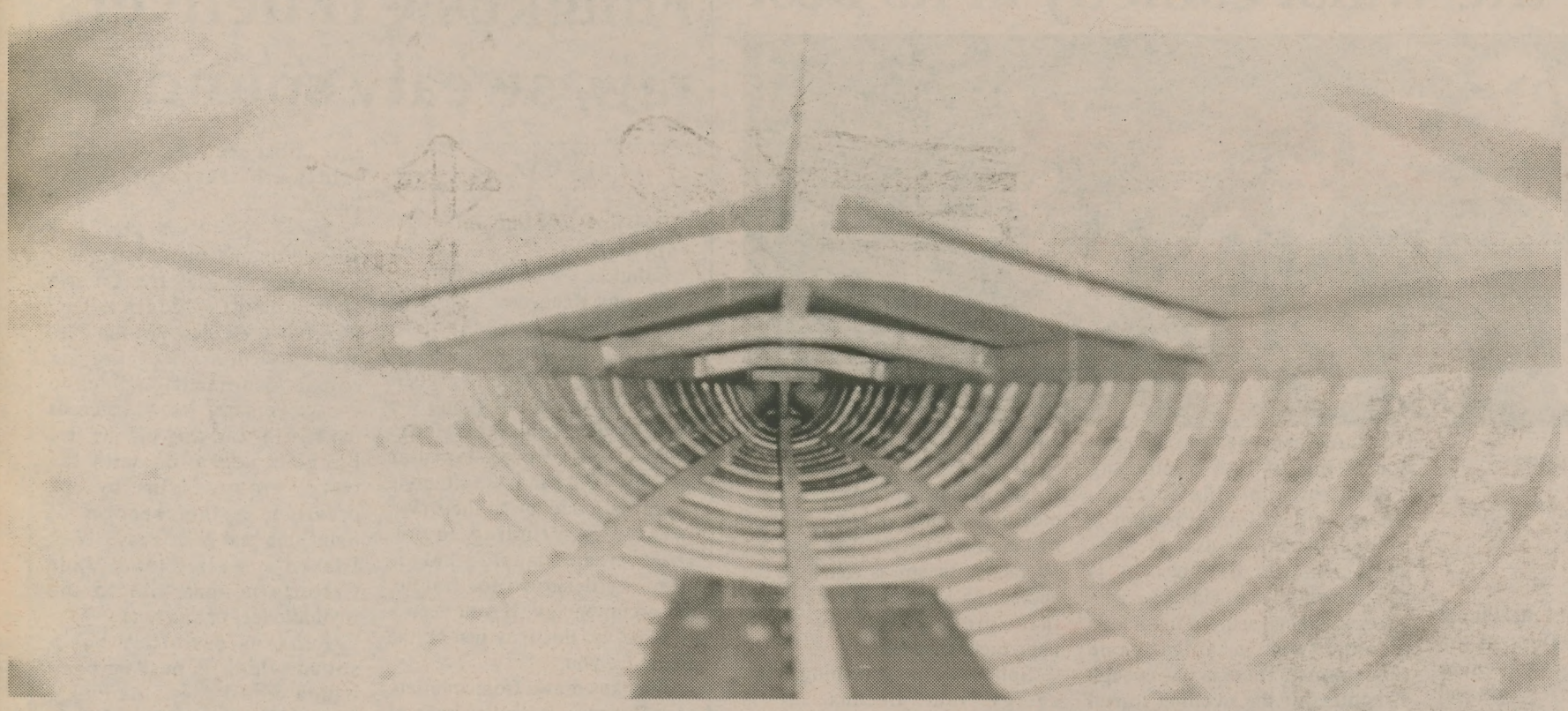
I would be a liar to say I wasn't intimidated by building an ikyak, at first. The task seemed monumental. But intimidation didn't last long. Corey has helped build around 150 ikyaks since moving to Anacortes, from New York, six years ago. The process is streamlined and Corey knew how to direct my attention. His advice was to worry about one piece at a time; he'd give me a few instructions, then come back when I finished the section I was working on. He taught me what I needed to know, yet left room for self-discovery.

I started with the bow piece, which is later lashed onto the rest of the boat. It is referred to as a bifurcate bow; from the side it looks like a seal's head and it forks into two pieces. The lower piece, or prow, is skinny and allows for a sharp entry into the water, for better hydrodynamics. The top piece provides lift when heading into tight swells and waves, otherwise the ikyak would dive. In contrast to modern kayaks, the ikyak carries its water length much further forward and aft, which gives the ikyak more speed and better handling.

I settled on a 17-foot ikyak with 20-inch beam. I wanted a fast craft that tracked well and corresponded to the seas of my home in southeast Alaska.

Working beside me on her





to skin a kayak: building

ayak was Tee, a high-school student.

ee's ikyak is a foot shorter, as she eighs about 100 pounds. Her boat is ade mainly of spruce, mine of yellow edar. The advantage of spruce is that s lighter, but it's less rot resistant. ee's boat, weighing somewhere under 0 pounds, will take her much faster an an 18-foot modern fibreglass kayak ith a big burly man paddling it.

The woodworking for an ikyak is irly simple. As Corey said, it's all 920's technology or earlier: Japanese aws that cut on the pull and not the ush, chisels, planes, lots of sanding, nd an old, yet good, bandsaw. I hadn't one any woodwork since junior-high hop class, and Tee had almost no xperience, but experience wasn't ssential.

Once I settled on a size for my yak we cut gunwales, or the sides. hose were lashed onto the bow and ern with a series of wraps and knots. ext came the deck beams, cut from iftwood on a near-by beach. I esigned my deck beams for a small ockpit and measured one for a otbrace. Most kayaks have adjustable ot pegs, but with the ikyak I went for a ustom fit.

The internal keel came next, en the bent ribs and horizontal ringers from the bow to the stern to efine the chines (angles) of the skin. he ribs and stringers take a lashing of a w loops and a knot. Later, the lashing takes a few more cinching loops and another knot. With 48 ribs and six stringers, there were nearly 300 lashings, which took about 10 hours. You can search high and low, but you won't find a nail or a bit of glue in an ikyak.

Skinning the boat is a new intimidation. Traditionally, an Aleut hunter's wife would prepare and sew the skin for her husband; Aleut hunters saw their ikyak as their second wife and didn't want anyone to be jealous. As I am happily unmarried and no one would be jealous, I skinned the ikyak myself.

Today's ikyak uses an eight- to 14-ounce ballistic nylon with a special weave. Nylon is forgiving and requires none of the preparation that animal skins would.

After becoming reacquainted with my woodworking talents, it was back to the basics for the sewing process. The learning curve is fast for sewing and it shows as the stitching gets progressively better from one end of the boat to the other. All that was left to do was coat the boat with a special resin, but the weather was too cold to do it right away.

I returned two weeks later when the weather improved. Corey had volunteered to coat my boat a few days earlier, so I could take it home with me. A friend came with me for the pick-up, and I warned her that after seeing all the boats and the workshop, she'd want to build one too.

I felt something indescribable walking into Corey's shop and seeing my ikyak in its new light-brown coat. I went to touch the skin. "Careful," said Corey. "It might still be wet." I touched it lightly — just a touch wet. My buddy admired the ikyak too, and admitted that now she wanted to build one. I hear about it whenever she sees my boat.

The next morning we launched my ikyak. Suddenly I was the parent who sees their kid go into the world for the first time. It sat in the water perfectly. I put my paddle down and straight-legged myself in. It was a little tippy, relative to your average department-store kayak. But there's a real secondary stability, which means it's tippy for a few degrees but then it's solid.

I took the first stroke, then another, and another. Maybe Flipper would be a good name, because damn that ikyak's fast. Three strokes and I was at cruising speed; it's well over a dozen for a conventional kayak. The boat tracked well, shooting straight ahead until I leaned to the side a little to turn out. It made a sharper turn that I expected. With a kayak, when you lean to one side, the boat will naturally turn to the other. A true ikyak has no rudder. A combination of a sharp keel and a cockpit that is aft of the centre line makes a rudder unnecessary.

Corey took the boat for a quick paddle. He started slowly, then went for an Olympic super-paddle. The boat lifted as he sped along the shore, producing little wake, and proving the design's superb hydrodynamics.

According to Corey, my ikyak is one of the fastest touring kayaks around. Cruising speed should be around five knots, and exertion speed up to seven (a knot being about two kilometres per hour). An average kayak hits three to four knots. Corey said something that sticks with me: "There's not much we can do to improve the boat's design. I just build them."

For anyone wanting to build an ikyak with Corey, he offers classes in Anacortes. An ikyak, with paddle, costs about as much as tuition for one term.

Corey's other endeavour is a not-for-profit umiak sailing school, based in the San Juan Islands. Three-day trips focus on topics as diverse as marriage counseling to ethnobotany, all while learning how to pack and sail an umiak.

Corey's address is:
Spiritline Kayaks and the Umiak Adventure School
274 Welch Lane
Anacortes, WA 98221 USA
360-299-0804

Suggested further reading:

• Howard Chapelle, Skin Boats of the Americas, Smithsonian, Washington, D.C., 1945.
• George Dyson, Baidarka, Alaska Northwest Publishing, Anchorage, 1986.

"The kayak is not an object; it is a living being, male, a hunting partner which attempts to identify itself with its master and would like to share his married life. Their fates indeed are bound up together, and their lives end the same time: they disappear at sea together or, on land, share the same grave."

Joelle Robert-Lamblin

Above-the-waist comedy at its best

by Cristina Burgess

Spilt Milk Comedy Troupe
Planet Theatre
Every Friday

Late Friday nights the Planet Theatre, on the top floor of the Eaton Centre, hosts an evening full of laughs. A relaxed atmosphere and an unpretentious group of talented performers make for a successful night of comedy. Spilt Milk presents above-the-waist comedy at its best. The sheer enjoyment and enthusiasm the actors show in their performance is contagious.

The Planet Theatre is an intimate and personal setting for interactive theatre. The evening is structured as a theatre challenge consisting of two competing teams, three people in each, whose skill at improvisation is judged by the audience. The subject matter of the skits is determined by the audience, who also get to keep score. This acts as a comic twist to typical game show format. There is just enough structure for the evening to run smoothly, but also much room for improvisation.

The relaxed rapport between audience and performers promotes audience participation, resulting in true interactive theatre. The confidence the actors show in their comic ability creates a performance of high humour, and the lack of costumes and props exposes the strong command these actors have of their craft. The co-operation between the performers is a pleasure to observe and produces hilarious results. The joy of interactive theatre is watching the audience's ideas evolve into skits that produce creative and unpredictable results.

Spilt Milk is refreshing, high energy fun. Because it is interactive theatre, based on improvisation, each show is different. The participating performers rotate, guaranteeing fresh faces every week. It's surprising to see what results from improvisation by such a talented group of individuals.

For reservations call 479-3374. tickets are $6 with student I.D. ❑

Fungkus CD delivers raw, sweaty sound

by L.T.C.

Backflips and Balloon Animals
Fungkus
Skungk Records

The hot new CD *Backflips and Balloon Animals* is a good first effort at immortalizing the live Fungkus sound. For those who are not already familiar with this local band, the album is a great introduction to their raw, sweaty, ass-grinding sound. They create music that is primarily designed for frantic, fun group energy. If you need a pick-me-up, this may just be the album for you.

Fungkus draws from a variety of influences, with the bulk of inspiration coming from the rhythm and horn hyperfunk of Southern California. Great instrumentals compliment Tadzio Jamiolkowski's deep voice and his rich, hypnotic delivery, setting these tracks apart from the flood of groove-jam acts. The lyrics range from the obscure to Tadzio's trademark rhythmic bassy banter.

In "Soldiers", Jeff Birmingham's punchy trumpet gives the song a strong Latin flavour, while "Start it Up" incorporates a groovy slap bass section with a refreshing sax solo and some fine backup vocals. Perhaps "Razz" succeeds the best in carrying off the live Fungkus sensation with the tasty, groovy solos by the creative rhythm section of SamDunn and Matt Pease. Nick Blasko's guitar and Jade Carter's congas add to the rhythmic feel of this tune.

Fungkus definitely has a sound which is best enjoyed with a crowd due to its funky, danceable, somewhat frenetic energy. Despite a slightly overproduced sound on some of the tracks, *Backflips and Balloon Animals* hints at the live Fungkus experience. This local talent is worth supporting in both live and recorded form.

Catch Fungkus at the Limit on Saturday, March 16. ❑

Contemporary music exposed to all at annual *Sonic Lab*

by Adrienne Mercer

Sonic Lab
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
March 8

From the moment Dan Lehton appeared from the shadows with his bassoon, it was apparent that *Sonic Lab* spectators were in for an eccentric evening. *Sonic Lab*, directed by Christopher Butterfield, is produced once each semester to expose both music students and their audience to contemporary music.

Lehton opened the evening with Butterfield's 1977 composition "My fight for control of the night sky." Dressed to the nines, he walked slowly across the front of the recital hall and ascended the stage. To the delight of the audience, the quirky sounds from his bassoon were intermittently halted by the harsh bleating of a bell attached to the side of the instrument.

The appreciative laughter and scattered applause caused Lehton to break character only once, as a tiny smirk crossed his face then quickly disappeared.

Eight other pieces performed that evening presented a varied and exciting selection of music. A favorite was "Pulau Dewata" by Claude Vivier, a last-minute addition to the program featuring a mesmerizing combination of marimbas, vibraphone, bells and chimes.

The six percussionists practiced the piece in secret for several months, and their extreme concentration and love for the music was apparent throughout the piece.

"Christopher Butterfield has an amazing sense of programming. There was something for everyone on this program, and something for everyone to dislike as well," said Randall Lawrence, a first-year Master's student in composition. A performance of Lawrence's 1995 composition, "Film Music" received applause and cheers from the *Sonic Lab* audience.

"Film Music" combines a processed voice recording from a film with the timed responses of stringed instruments. Violinist Denny Goertz; violist Gabriel Solomon, and cellist Gillian Wayman played Lawrence's eerie music on a nearly-dark stage. The effect was other-worldly, and the length of the piece extremely difficult to gauge.

"I wanted to produce a piece that disallowed the listener from knowing what is going on," said Lawrence. "I'm interested in the way the performer has to interact with something so concrete. It's like setting something up that's so fragile, it's almost doomed to failure— and that's okay.

"A lot of my music is set up to reconsider relationships from one thing to the next," he said. "Once you slow everything down, people start to question their own reactions, because they have to suspend judgment about the relationships that happen within a given frame of time."

Lawrence sees time as a very strange concept, "especially for students. We mark out our days in a really constrictive way. We're never totally sure how long a minute is anyway — trying to solidify our conception of how time passes is a funny thing."

Every *Sonic Lab* performance was innovative, entertaining, and well worth a review to itself. Soloist Susan Young was phenomenal in a rendition of Webern's "Drei Lieder," Op. 18. Lawrence on guitar and Adrian Peters on clarinet provided the perfect complement to Young's soaring and capable voice.

"Electric Counterpoint" by Steve Reich featured 14 guitarists, and Pablo Seib and Richard Chamberlain on counterbass. "Press your eyelids with your fingertips, breathe through your nose" showed that composer Martin Arnold also enjoys experimenting with the concept of time.

Pianist Corinne Welk and violinist Klisala Harrison gave a beautiful performance of Butterfield's "Shiny, Lost, Unjustified." Their piece was followed by "Festina lente," Peter Hatch's interesting, if piercing, composition for three clarinets. Though difficult to listen to at times, it succeeded in showcasing the amazing range and expression of the instrument.

The placement of this piece demonstrated Butterfield's skill as a programmer — the piece is completely different from "Shiny, Lost, Unjustified," but the two worked perfectly.together.

The evening ended with a wonderful and obviously strenuous performance of Reich's "Clapping Music." Marti Hopson and Lawrence, performing for the third time in the program, received thunderous applause when they finished clapping the intricate piece. With wide grins, they jokingly applauded the audience, then ran offstage.

"The night went really well," said Lawrence. "The *Sonic Lab* concerts are meant to expose students to contemporary music as much as the audience, and I think it definitely did that."

"Film Music" is part of the March 12 Fridaymusic program, which features various compositions by students. the performance starts at 12:30 pm in the Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, located in the MacLaurin building. Please contact the Music school for more information about Fridaymusic, or if you have information concerning the February 12 theft of Randall Lawrence's classical guitar. ❑

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The tragedy of *L'Amore*

by Matt Pollard

L'Amore dei tre re
Pacific Opera Victoria

Pacific Opera Victoria's February production of *L'Amore dei tre re (The Love of Three Kings)* featured tasty orchestral and vocal performances and nuanced stage production. Part of Pacific Opera's ongoing schedule, the production affirmed the continuing artistic and emotional power of opera.

The typically melodramatic plot involves a struggle between an old and blind king (Archibaldo), his son (Manfredo), and the deposed prince (Avito), over Manfredo's wife (Fiora). Fiora is less than enthusiastic about the marriage. Given that the marriage was arranged by Archibaldo for his son–as "spoils" of conquest–Fiora's lack of passion is hardly surprising. Nor is her continuing tryst with Avito.

In the course of the opera Archibaldo's discovery of Fiora's "infidelity" enrages the old king to the point of strangling Fiora to death. Finally, intending to further his vengeance against Fiora's lover, Archibaldo inadvertently poisons Manfredo when he kisses the poisoned lips of Fiora's corpse. By the opera's close, the tragic elements have dutifully appeared; predictable as the plot may be, by the final scene I'm sure most audience members shared my panging desire for an open bottle of poignant, poignant red Italian wine.

Ultimately, the opera's plot merely serves as a vehicle for the rich musical performances and interesting staging. The vocal performances were outstanding, each cast member displaying a powerful and expressive range. The third act's funeral chorus provided a somber vocal tapestry, nicely placing the soloists' performances in relief.

The most stunning musical element of the opera was the orchestra's moving performance. The tone fluctuated seamlessly from furious to tender. Timothy Vernon's conducting guided the orchestra through gracefully erratic rhythm shifts, and complex musical themes. The emotional and esthetic qualities of the music spilling out across the theatre from musicians crammed elbow to elbow in the small orchestral space were the fundamental strength of the production.

In attempting to overcome declining public funding for the arts in Canada, organizations like POV have tried to appeal to hip, younger audiences through comparisons with Hollywood, both in describing operatic plot elements and subtly erotic promotional sketches.

Oddly, little reference is made to those things that really distinguish opera from other artistic forms: the incomparable richness and power of an orchestrated live performance by professional musicians; huge surround-sound speakers reproducing thudding explosions with digital precision cannot remotely approach the emotional impact of sitting in the same room with dozens of human beings coaxing sensuous sounds from a few thin strings, together creating and communicating a sumptuous experience.

Peter Barcza and Susan Porta star in *L'Amore dei tre re.*

The fine staging and set design of POV's production added atmosphere and complexity to the otherwise skeletal plot. In act one, Fiora lays across a large map of Italy, her body subject to the same superficial claims of male possession as the land. Even the man she loved, and from whom she had been "taken," Avito, viewed her with a proprietary eye. It was her sudden break from passivity that drew Archibaldo's murderous sanctions. This sub-textual portrayal of the patriarchal gaze, cutting simultaneously across the surface of the earth and women's bodies, brought a subtle irony to the "romantic" obsessions of the literal plot.

The set design also added colour and tone to the production. Huge slab-like structures loomed ominously above the characters. There is a sense of gradual decay of the structures' sculpted features. Most effective was the sad, distorted expression on the upturned face of a large cast of a female form in the second act. With relatively few elements, the set managed to articulate a surprising range of atmosphere throughout the production.

POV's production of *L'amore die tre re* demonstrated the contemporary strengths of opera and its potential to provide a momentary conduit to the cultural forms of the past, while innovatively appealing to new audiences.

Upcoming Pacific Opera Victoria productions include: *Carmen* (April/May 1996), *The Pearl Fishers* (Sept. 1996), *The Turn of the Screw* (Feb. 1997), and *Tosca* (April/May 1997). ❑

Death and Poe on stage

by Sarah Roberts

The Masque of Red Death
Open Space
March 7-10

Death puts down his cigarette and walks towards the audience. "Boo," he says, with his face pressed close to an unsuspecting audience member in the first row. Then the tall bald man with a white face and black eyes laughs and fills the room with echoes. The spotlight on him fades.

The Masque of the Red Death played at Open Space Gallery March 7-10. The play told the haunting history of death and disease in the world through a look at the life of Edgar Allan Poe.

The play moved back and forth easily through three separate stories: the adaptation of the story "The Masque of Red Death," Poe's frustration and anger at being forced to live in Death's shadow, and a sarcastic history of the human reaction to disease as seen through Death's eyes.

Occasionally Elvy Del Bianco, who played Poe, took on the role of a preacher or a politician, showing an amazing versatility in his acting. In these roles, Bianco offered quotes from both history and modern day about what should be done about disease.

"Most of the quotes in this play are real or paraphrased from historical texts and modern sources, which in some cases is more frightening than anything Poe ever wrote," said Ian Case, director and writer of the play.

Although it appeared that the play was meant to focus on the life and sorrows of Poe, Death stole the show. Looming above the audience, dancing around and telling all the horrid beauties of a pestilent death, David Radford, as Death, was vivid, riveting, and very funny.

The performance by Radford was a little reminiscent of Jim Carrey, but this type of body language and sarcasm worked so well that familiarity did not lessen the performance.

At the end of the play audience members sat stunned, frozen in their seats. Nervous laughs seemed to be the only response to the blatant information about small pox, the plague, tuberculosis, AIDS and the ebola virus. It would not be at all surprising if the world population of hypochondriacs has increased by the number of people that saw *The Masque of Red Death*.

The play was haunting and chilling. Staging, sound and lighting were all very well done, and the performances were well worth remembering. The image of Death smiling coyly at the audience is one that will not be easily forgotten. ❑

Etheridge rocks Memorial Arena

by Calinda Brown

Melissa Etheridge/Ashley MacIssac
Memorial Arena
March 6

When she played at Harpo's in 1988, Melissa Etheridge was told if she got really big, she could play at Memorial Arena.

Well, she's big now, and she can fill Memorial with hordes of screaming fans.

Etheridge's show, March 6, brought together all kinds of people. Only at one of her concerts would you see leather-clad dykes sitting next to a man wearing a Husquavarna hat.

She played a mix of old favourites including "Bring Me Some Water" and "Come to My Window" with some of the songs from her latest album, *Your Little Secret*.

Although Etheridge and her band tried to add a bit of innovation to some pretty simple hard-rock tunes, the crowd was not there to listen to guitar riffs; they were there to hear Etheridge's voice, especially her trademark howls, long and raw.

She left the hard-rock sounds behind to play an acoustic set by herself, starting with "Baby You Can Sleep While I Drive" and continuing with "I'm Only Lonely," which Etheridge played using her guitar as a drum.

When the band returned, the showy tricks resumed; the band wins for the most original drum solo: all the guitarists gathered around the drummer who played his solo on the strings of the various guitars.

The opening act, Canada's sweetheart, Ashley MacIssac, played a short set that didn't satisfy any concert goers. A bad sound mix and technical problems prevented the audience from hearing any of MacIssac's trademark bowing. ❑

Damhnait Doyle's debut album a slice of audio heaven

by Mike Chilton

Shadows Wake Me
Damhnait Doyle
Latitude/EMI
1996

It doesn't matter how much or how little a person's musical taste ranges, one thing is for certain: everyone has that one album they cherish as a slice of audio heaven to escape to when everyday pressures become overwhelming.

The debut album by St. John's, Newfoundland, native Damhnait Doyle, *Shadows Wake Me*, has become the CD that currently holds that special place in my collection–the place that was formerly occupied by such releases as Tori Amos' *Under the Pink* and Sarah McLachlan's *Touch*.

Damhnait (pronounced "Dah-vit") Doyle's vocals are strikingly similar to that of a younger McLachlan. Doyle has an incredible vocal range and a style that is not only ethereal and seductive, but also provocative.

With all the buzz in the Canadian music industry about the incredible music coming out of eastern Canada and the Maritimes, Doyle's brand of music tends to slip through the cracks between the categories her fellow easterners fit into.

Her music is not the hard-edged power-pop that has been popularized by groups off of such labels such as Murderecords (i.e.. Sloan or Hardship Post), and it is not that fiddle-driven Celtic music popularized most recently by Ashley MacIsaac.

Instead, Damhnait Doyle's style of music is an acoustic pop-folk concoction that is also laced with tinges of jazz, world beat, new age, blues, and (gasp) country. To succinctly categorize Doyle's music under a definite style would be an injustice to her-she is a creative artist whose best work, without a doubt, is still ahead of her.

There are no "bad tracks" on *Shadows Wake Me*. Highlights on the album include "Signal Hill," a guitar-jazz tune with incredibly enchanting vocals, also supplied by Doyle; "Shoreline," which features an ambient soundtrack that melds with her angelic lullaby-like vocals; the moody ballad "Sunday Mornings," which features an amazing string quartet; "Jumping the Shadows," a song in which Doyle's vocals sound like they were taken right from the Ani Difranco repertoire; and her torch-song take on the traditional Celtic lyre "As I Roved Out."

Also worth mentioning is Doyle's mature outlook on life. In a time when most singers her age are whining and bitching about how much life sucks, she takes a more philosophical approach towards existence. In "Jumping the Shadows" she rationalizes her fears and fixations about death.

In most of the other songs she penned (Doyle wrote nine out of the album's 12 songs), she uses her level-headed outlook on life to muse about relationships and heartbreak. But on her song "A List of Things," Doyle is at her philosophical best as she sings about seizing the day and not letting others live life for you.

In creating *Shadows Wake Me*, Doyle has molded herself into a perfect role model for women, and she knows it. Nowhere is this more obvious than when Doyle sings "I should teach the little girls to scream / before it's too late to be heard" on "A List of Things." This is the kind of assertive attitude that will most likely guarantee that she will stay on the music scene and produce much more music in the years to come.

Get *Shadows Wake Me* for that special place in your CD collection; even if the softcore folk genre does not interest you, this album will surprise and satisfy. ❑

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Date for the origin of life debate reopened

by Tom Clarke

For millennia, philosophers and theologians have debated when life first occurred.

Their theories ranged from those of Aristotle, who envisioned a world without beginning or end, to those of Archbishop Ussher, who could not imagine anything older than six thousand years.

Life may have orignated more than once on this planet

Over the past century, scientists have been able to shed light on this age old question. This has been done using information from fossils to trace the twisting pathways of life through the ages.

Studying the impressions left in stone by ancient bacteria, and examining fossilized algae mats, can give paleontologists an idea of when life first originated. These studies have determined that the first life forms must have originated around three and a half billion years ago, not long after the earth developed a crust and an ocean.

Until recently this date has been virtually uncontested. But now a team of molecular biologists led by Dr. R.F. Doolittle have reopened the debate. They have published an article in the journal *Science* which argues there is evidence to suggest life began two billion years later than the oldest existing fossils.

Doolittle and his team arrived at this date for the origin of life by counting differences in the amino-acids that form a number of proteins found in all life forms. When two species separate from a common ancestor, each new species accumulates random mutations in their proteins at a fairly constant rate.

The number of mutations that have occurred between two species can be used to calculate the 'evolutionary distance' between them. By extrapolating from organisms for which the separation date is well known from the fossil record, the evolutionary distance between two species can be converted into a measure of real time.

Using protein data from across the three major divisions of life (Eubacteria, Archeabacteria, and Eukaryotes), Doolittle arrived at a date for the origin of life at 1.5 billion years ago, a full two billion years after the first fossil bacteria.

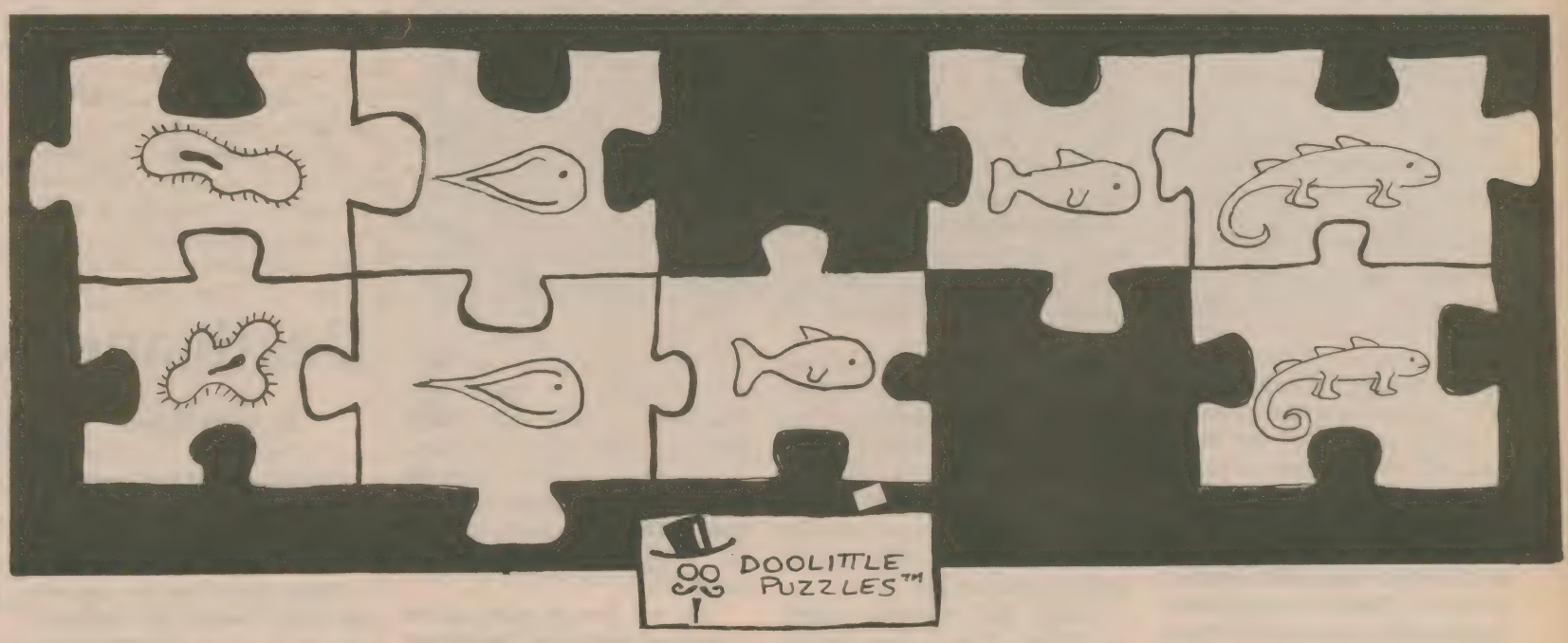
The possible reasons why Doolittle arrived at such a young age for the origin of life are already being debated. One explanation could be that the ancient fossils of bacteria are not real fossils, but have some other non-organic origin. However, the intricate similarities and between modern bacteria and the fossils, and the occurrence of fossils at different ages through the last 3.5 billion years tends to rule this explanation out.

A second possible explanation is that the organisms used as references to extrapolate the origins of life are much older then their fossils would seem to indicate, but this is an even less likely explanation.

Alternatively, both the molecular biologists and the paleontologist may be correct, and life may have originated more than once on this planet. If primitive cells could have formed the organic soup of 3.5 billion years ago, could they have formed again 2 billion years later? But if so, where did this planet's original life forms go?

The Doolittle study has once again reopened the debate on when life originated, and with it posed new questions on how life occurred and what form it might have taken.

But with many new and different techniques being applied to this age old puzzle, it is hoped that a definitive answer may eventually be found, in whatever strange and unforeseen form it may take.❑



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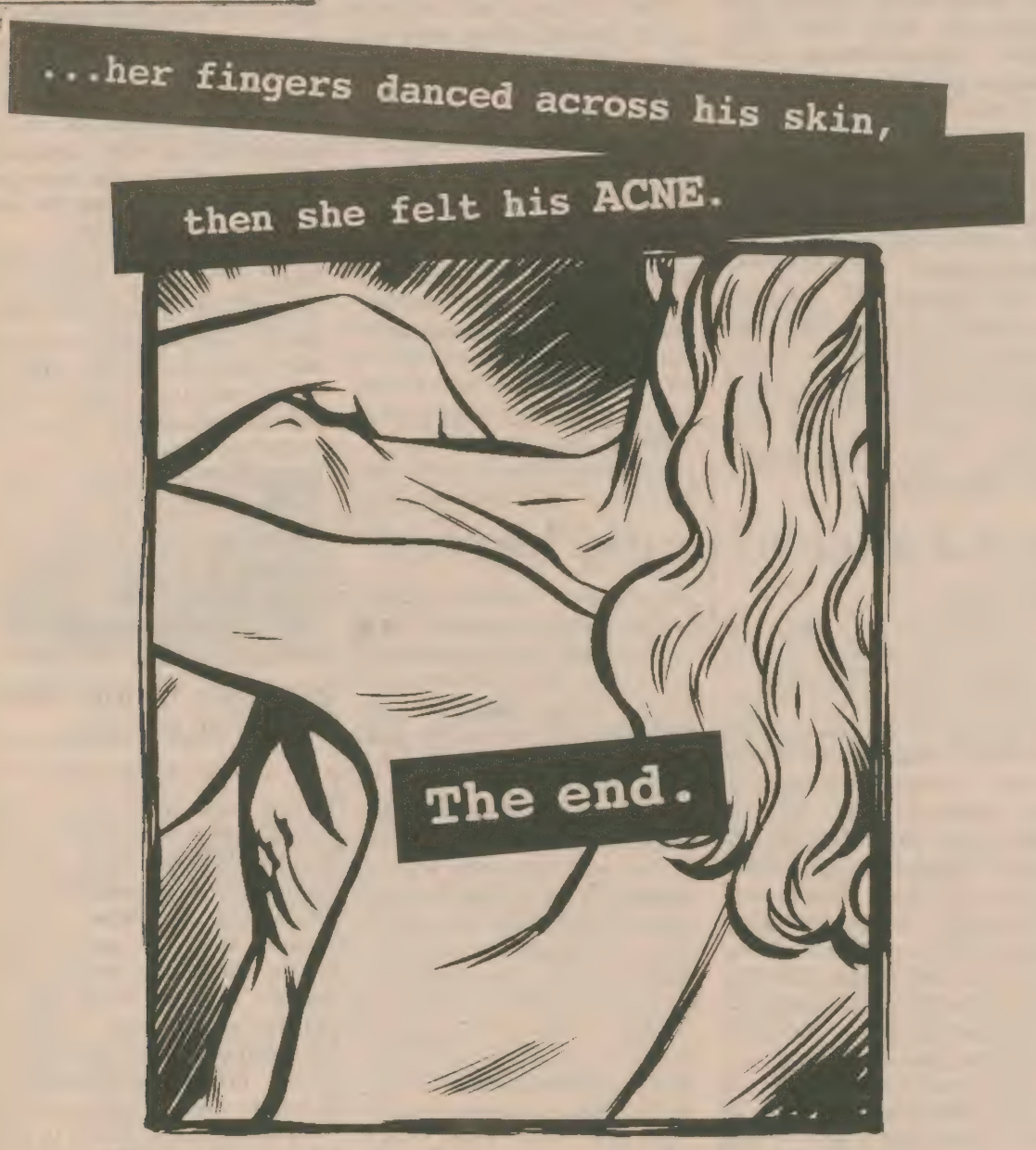

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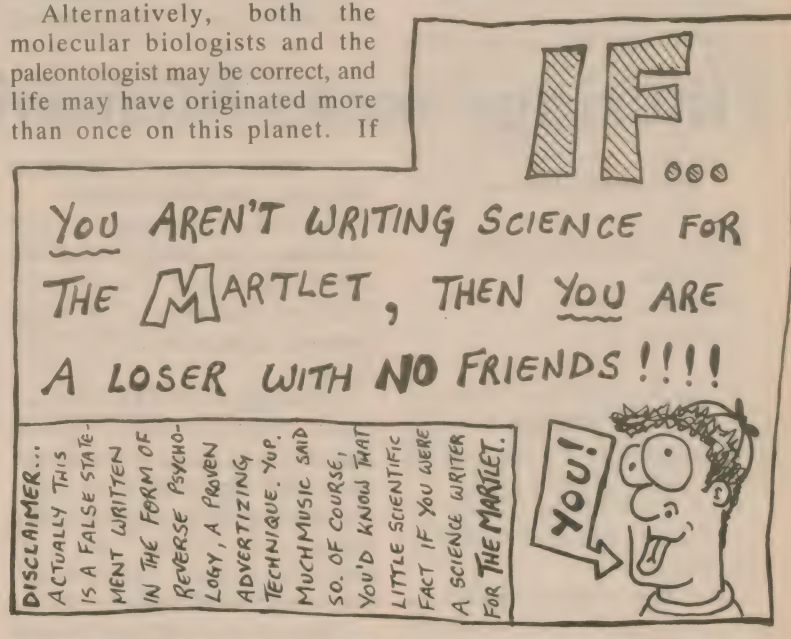
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Vikes women hoopsters upset at CIAUs by Martlets

by Mike Chilton

The first-round quarter final game against McGill at the women's CIAU basketball tournament should have been a showcase for the Vikes strengths: free-throw shooting and transition. Instead, McGill beat them at their own game.

The fifth-ranked McGill Martlets beat the fourth-ranked UVic Vikes 68-60 at the CIAU Championship tournament at Laval University in Ste-Foy, Quebec, March 8-10.

The first round quarter final game against McGill ....should have been a showcase for the women Vikes basketball team's strengths....instead, McGill beat them at their own game.

Even though the Vikes came out fast and hard at the beginning of the first half, the Martlets caught up to post a scant 31-28 deficit. Through the use of tight zone coverage and quick transition with the ball, McGill stepped to the lead soon after the start of the second half and never looked back.

The Vikes tried all through the second frame to jump ahead through three point attempts and use of their transition game, but McGill's steel-trap defence took away these shots, in turn, giving the Martlets the offensive upper-hand, and forcing the Vikes into a similar defensive game which did not suit their normally offensive style of play.

The women Vikes basketball squad in a happier moment: the Can West Championship medal and trophy presentation which took place two weeks ago in McKinnon Gym. A similar scene was not to be repeated at the CIAU Championship tournament last weekend in Quebec, as the Vikes suffered a tough loss against McGill in the first round of the final eight on Saturday.

Jason Holland photo

This match did see an offensive battle by first team all-Canadians, as Vikes' guard Lisa Koop tallied a game-high 22 points, in addition to six rebounds and 2 assists, and Martlets' guard Vicky Tessier put in a team-high 19 points, in addition to eight boards. McGill would go on to take the bronze after losing to the University of Toronto in Saturday's match.

"Losing our first game was a huge disappointment," said Vikes head coach Kathy Shields upon returning from the tournament. "We got off to a great start, but then we fell apart."

In UVic's second round consolation game on Saturday, the Vikes picked themselves up and dusted off the host Laval Rouge et Or 65-49 to assure themselves of at least a sixth-place finish. Once again, Koop lead the game in scoring with 25 points, while high post Audrey Dennison and guard Kerri-Anne Butterworth added 14 points apiece. Butterwoth snagged 10 rebounds, while Dennison, whose performance earned her player-of-the-game honours, pulled down five rebounds.

On Sunday, UVic ended the tournament with a bang as they blew away the Dalhousie Tigers 77-51 to secure a fifth-place finish in the tournament, the second year in a row the Vikes has finished the final eight in that position.

"It was a nice way to finish the tournament," said Shields, "we got great games out of our seniors and we got every player off the bench out there. That way, every one of the players could say they had a chance to play in the championship tournament."

Leading Vikes scorers in the final game of their season were Dennison, who recorded 20 points and five rebounds in her last game with UVic, Kristine Brown, who scored 13 points and had a dozen rebounds, and Koop, who was named player of the game after tallying 17 points and pulling down a rebound. This result clinched Koop a spot on the tournament all-star team. The game also marked Butterworth's last game wearing a Vikes jersey.

The Vikes end their season with a 26-7 record, which includes the results from the tournament.

"Losing our first game (at the tournament) was a huge disappointment ....we got of to a great start, but then we fell apart."

Kathy Shields

In Sunday's CIAU final, which came down to a match-up between the U of T Varsity Blues and the Manitoba Bisons, the Bisons emerged as 1996 CIAU champs with a 79-77 overtime win. Shields called the colour commentary for the nation-wide television broadcast of the game.

"Next year's team will be another step," said Shields when asked to evaluate the Vikes future. "We a hopeful that we can get back there (the CIAU tournament) next year. We're not that far."

The men's CIAU basketball tournament takes place Saint Patrick's Day weekend in Halifax, NS, but the men Vikes will not present as they were eliminated from the final eight with a sweep by the U of Alberta Golden Bears in the last week of the regular season. - sports ed.

Scores and Results

X-Country

•CWUAA Championships• (Edmonton, Alta.)

Men's 3000m
1. Jeff Schiebler UBC 8:09.65
2. Graham Cocksedge UVic 8:38.47
7. Chad Pawson UVic 8:53.15
9. Paul McAurthur UVic 9:00.97
12. James Davison UVic 9:06.81

Men's 1500
1. Neal Beattie UVic 3:55.75
8. Chad Pawson UVic 4:09.27

Men's 1000m
1. Darryl Fillion U of M 2:23.03 (CW record)
6. James Morrison UVic 2:32.01
16. Mike Coey UVic 2:41.20

Men's 4x800
1. U of Man. 7:44.26
4. UVic 7:50. 26

Women's 3000m
1. Wendy Chrusch U of M 10:47.05
2. Tanya Berry UVic 10:47.05
10. Barbara Brych UVic 11:06.83

Women's 1500m
1. Suzanne Binne U of M 4:38.24
4. Monica Vadocz-Dudek UVic 4:45.93
12. Barbara Brych UVic 5:00.24

Women's 1000m
1. Suzanne Binne U of M 2:55.19
2. Monica Vadocz-Dudek UVic 2:56.99
18. Cynthia Dell UVic 3:21.46

•CIAU Championships• (Windsor, Ont.)

Men's 3000m
1. Jeff Schiebler UBC 7:59.29 (CIAU record)

•first time under 8:00 by a Canadian university athlete.

6. Graham Cocksedge UVic 8:38.43

Men's 3000m
1. Dan Hennigar Dalhousie 3:51.7
3. Neal Beattie UVic 3:54.00

Women's 1000m
1. D. Wiseman York 2:53.18
4. Monica Vadocz-Dudek UVic 2:56.15

NEXT WEEK IN SPORTS:
-VIKES SWIM TEAM A CIAUs
-HOCKEY POOL (?)

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Sunday Brunch! $5.50 & up
Catch Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, Maggie and the rest of the Simpsons gang at 8pm. It will make thirsty students look forward to Sunday nights.
Sundays
It's British comedy night at the Cock & Bull. In addition to our incredible specials, catch episodes of Mr. Bean, Faulty Towers and Monty Python. The fun starts at 8pm.
Tuesdays
PLUS- $5.50 Pasta Special
Cock & Bull Pub
Just down in Cadboro Bay village!! 2581 Penrhyn, Hours: 11:30 to 11:30

• March 14 •

Beyond Dysfunctional Learning Models... Videa (Victoria International Development Education Association) will present a facilitation skills and experimental Learning Workshop at the University centre Rm A183 from 2-5 pm. Sign up at the School of Social Work, Child and Youth Care or at VIDEA 385-2333. Suggested donation $10.

• March 15 •

Dr. Ian Whyte from Pacific Biological station, Nanaimo B.C., Will speak in Cunningham 146 at 3 p.m. "Does Success in Rearing Aquacultured Species Depend on Nutritional History?"

Cafe Merengue welcomes Victoria's newest Latin Band 'Victoria Latin Beat.' Come to 3277 Douglas and enjoy the hottest music in town! Admission is $6. Proceeds fund Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre. Doors open at 8:30 p.m.

Ukrainian Dinner 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Perogies, cabbage rolls and Ukrainian sausage. 527 Frazer, Esquimalt Centre. Sponsored by St. George Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

• March 16 •

International Potluck Supper! Bring your favourite international dish and participate in the goods-and-services auction. Enter your name to win Cuban Rum, Cuban artwork and other door prizes. Sponsored by Victoria Goods for Cuba, 595-7519.

• March 17 •

"Genesis" Vocal jazz at its best, 2 p.m., the Ridge Playhouse at Claremount Secondary School, 4980 Wesley Road. The Opening band will be a Quintet fromthe Jazz studies program at Esquimalt high. 658-6311. $6.

The UVic film society and the UVic Film Studies course union present A Classic Double Bill: **Queen Kelly** and **Sunset Boulevard**. Free (by donation) and open to all. HSD A248, 1-5 p.m.

The Humanist Society of Victoria meets every first and third Sunday from 10 a.m. to noon. This Sunday's presentation "Does it matter" is designed to encourage interesting dialogue. Admission is free. Phone 384-1930 or 652-2199.

• March 20 •

Machu Picchu: Entering the Mystery. A slide show and talk with video and displays of a remarkable trip into the heartland of the Inca Empire. Stories of the Incas, the Quechua people and suggestions for travelling there. $7/$10 David Lam auditorium. Info 1-800-944-2655.

• March 21 •

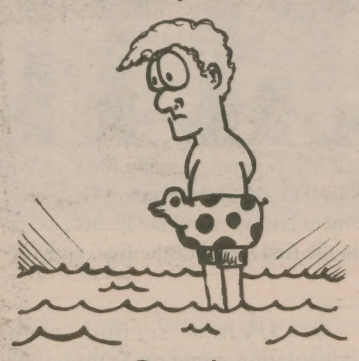
Islam's Sacred Symbols: Images & Text in an 18th century Ottoman prayer manuscript. Alexandra Bain, a PhD candidate in the Department of History in Art will give a public lecture. 2:30 p.m., MacLaurin D283.

Notice of **Annual General Meeting for the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance**. 6:30 p.m. Clearihue C305. Election of the 96/97 Board of Directors and also the representative of the LGBA on the UVSS BOD. Members wishing to run for the these positions should submit a letter of intent to the LGBA by March 21. Info 477-7644.

Emery Barnes, Speaker of the Legislature will talk about his experience in BC Politics on Conjunction with the March 21 UN Day for the elimination of racial discrimination.

• March 22 •

Celebrate the Diversity of UVic: Vertigo 8 p.m.-closing. Latin, Caribbean, and Bungara dance music. Anti-racism week event put on by the Students of Colour group. $5, Proceeds will fund anti-racism week '97, and the Students of Colour bursary fund.



• Ongoing •

11th annual Hospice swim-a-thon: Fundraising event for Victoria Hospice Society, March 28, McKinnon Pool. Registration form, pledge sheets and volunteer sign up sheet available at Interfaith Chaplaincy, 2nd floor University Centre. For info, call Yogendra 381-6743.

Do you want to make a difference in the lives of your peers and yourself? If so, join the **UVic Date Rape and Dating Violence Education Project** and help promote safe and healthy sexual relationships through education and activism. Open to women and men. Meetings on Fridays at 1:30 in SUB 137A or contact the Women's Centre @ 721-8353 for more exciting details.

If you are interested in forming a **course union** please contact Ana, UVSS Director of Academics, 721-8369.

Join the **Anarchist Student Union** every second Tuesday. (Feb. 27, Feb. 12...) in room 137a of the old SUB. Fighting the system, not just the cuts.

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Looking forward to doing your taxes? If you're not, call Scott at 360-2752 for your income tax worries. Refunds in as few as 10 days. Includes e-filing and no GST.

Notices

Primitive Lifeskills Ancient fire, shelter, tools, awareness etc. Instructor Wes Geitz was taught by Tom Brown. Info: 478-3110.

Scotland Tour of Adventure. Hiking, walking, partying. After exams April 26-May 4. Hostels-Castles-B&B-Farmhouses. Flexibility, do your own thing plus travel together. Small group .$1850, cost includes airfare, B&B and touring. For info call 391-1269/744-1881 evenings.

Late night at the Planet Theatre. Top Floor Eaton's Centre. Spilt Milk Comedy Theatre 10:00 p.m. Fridays. For reservations call 479-3374. $5/$8.

Win $500! Full-time undergrads, 1st through 4th year, needed to participate in a short telephone survey. Must complete survey for a chance to win. Weekdays 9 a.m.- 10 p.m. EST/Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. EST. Call 1-800-307-5364.

Stolen: Classical guitar built by Joe Poshek. Taken from the music school, February 12 at approximately 4 p.m. Any information would be appreciated. Call *the Martlet* @721-8360 if you can help.

Wanted

Looking for business-minded students to manage summer businesses in Victoria, Campell River, Vancouver, Fraser Valley and Kitimat. Call 727-9994. For more info. Average Summer Income $9,000-$10, 000.

Dog and cat looking for a clean apartment to rent . Will include one well-trained human. Matt 385-0170

Experienced tree planters! Applications are now being accepted for our 1996 season. Experienced planters and brushers are encouraged to apply. Justin Spearing, 604-635-1971. Little Trees Reforestation Inc. Box 47 Terrace BC V8G4A2.

Volunteers are needed to support persons with disabilities in a variety of recreation and leisure pursuits. If you can make a commitment of 2-4 hours per week, or are interested in this service, please phone 477-6314.

Psssssssssst

• Congratulations to Scott & Sanni. They had a 9lb! baby boy.

• Fargo-chan pesto is waiting. You tell him when & where.xx

• Jenny-Zach sez to write you a psssst. The *Martlet* staff.

• Hey, Frog, you're the best roommate ever! (Don't tell J, he'd be sad.) xoxo, Cherub.

• Huck, we all want you to come home soon! itchin'-ly yours, the production gang.

• To my favourite Toronto diner-lovers: drive that car as far as you can! Adbandon it out west-road trips await. mQ.

• i saw you. you were in the corner of a smoky bar drawing a map of newfoundland on the beer-stained table. coffee?

• Congrats to Sophie, Jordan, and baby Madeline.

• Cherise Noir, can I ride that crazy streetcar with you? I won't miss my stop. dorothy.

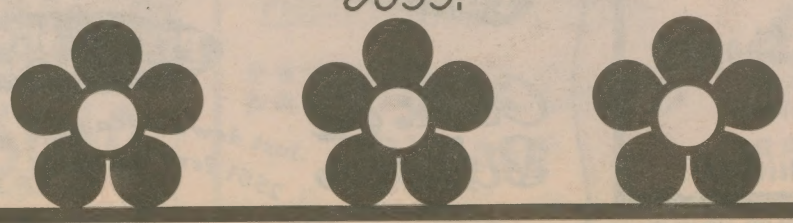
• Cali, I miss you. Keanu.

The Martlet High School Supplement is coming soon!!!

The High School Supplement is sent to every high school in B.C. and Alberta, it is also sent to 40 highschools across Canada. It Is your best option in reaching highschool students.

If You're interested in writing a story about your department, you keener, talk to Ade or Miko.

If you're interested in placing an ad about your department, club, or faculty talk to Jess at 721-8359.



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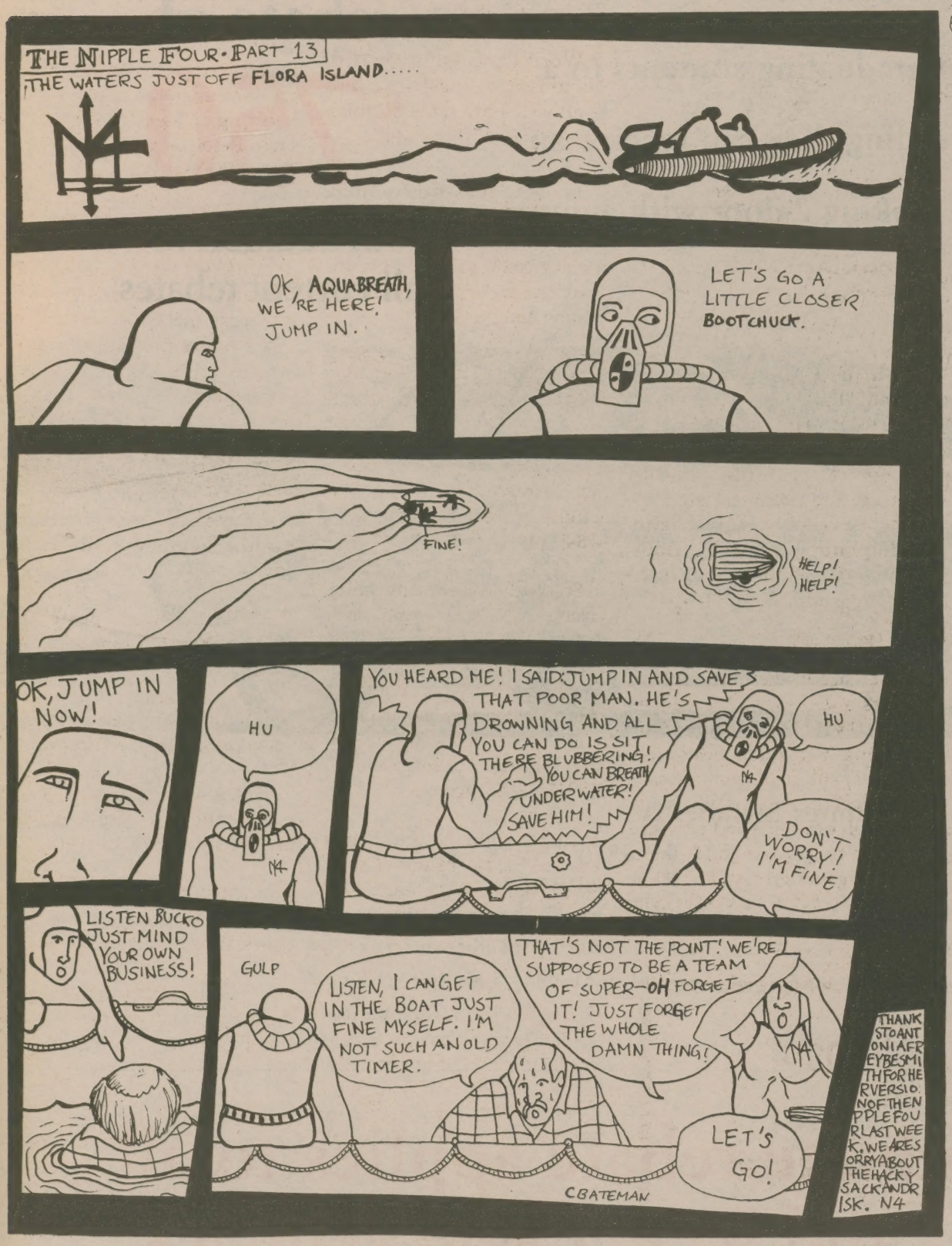
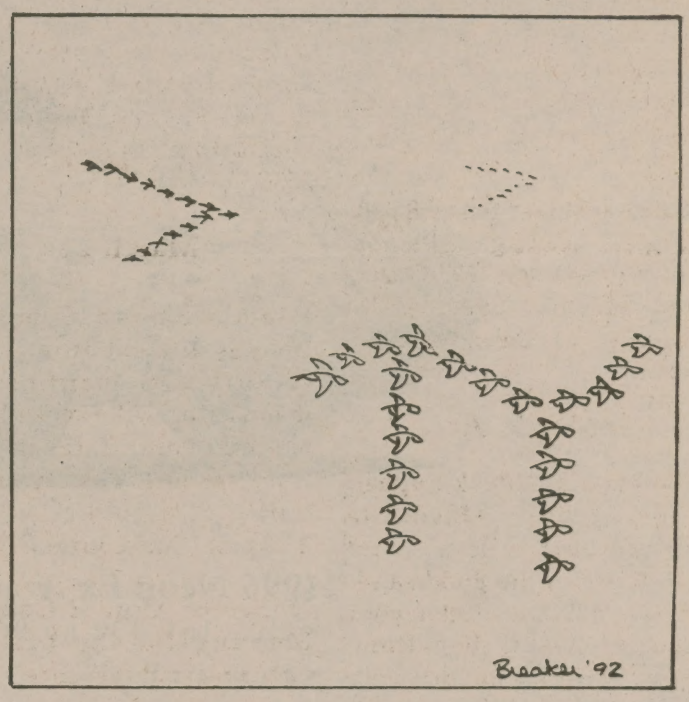
These Days

by A. Daston Zizakovic

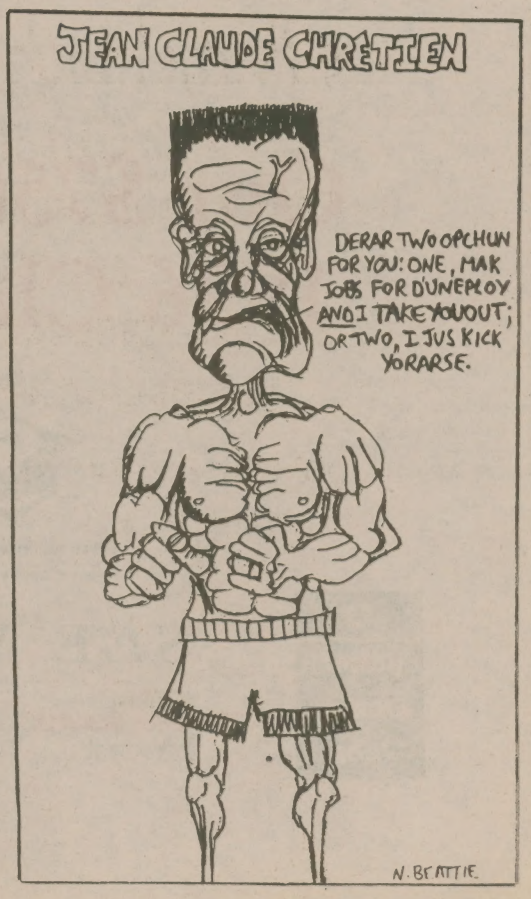
A RARE PHOTOGRAPH OF A HIGHLY ENDANGERED INTER-CONTINENTAL BALLISTIC RHINO IN THE WILD. THE LONG-RANGE SORFACE TO SURFACE CAPABILITIES OF THESE RHINOS MAKE THEM FAVOURED TARGETS FOR POACHERS.

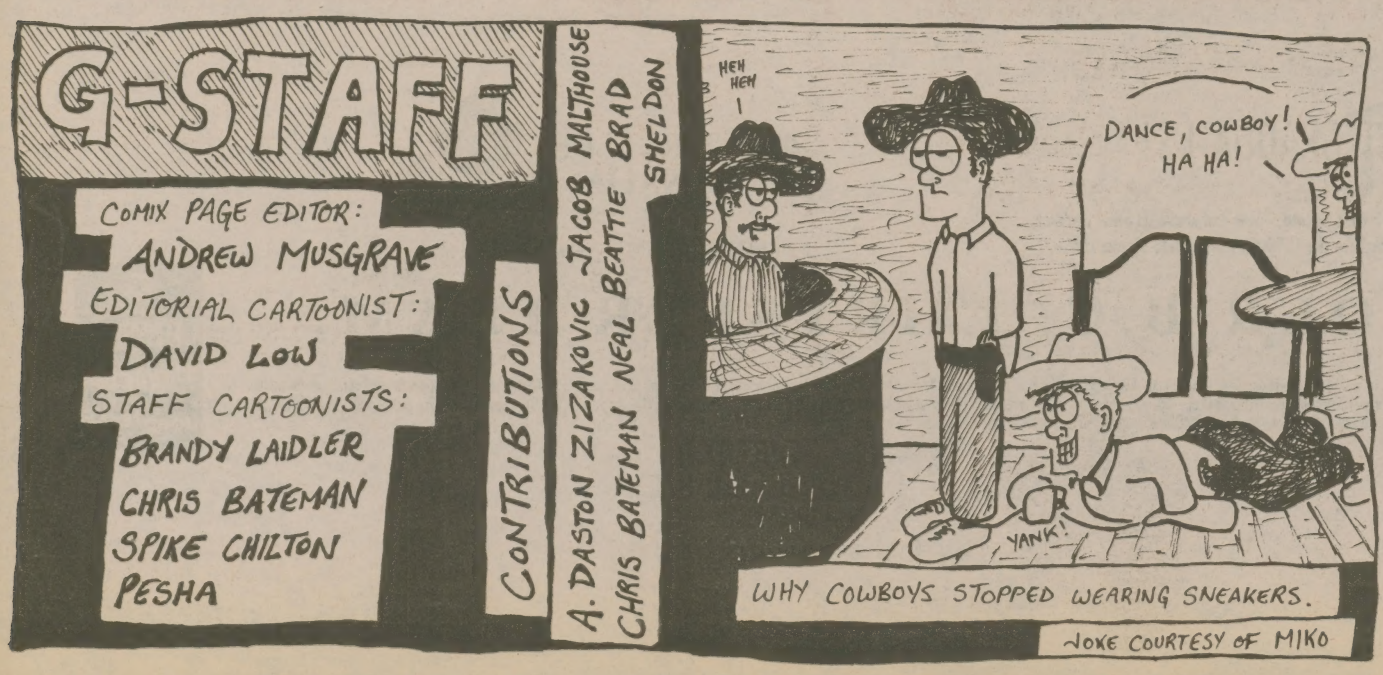

THE NIPPLE FOUR · PART 13
THE WATERS JUST OFF FLORA ISLAND.....
OK, AQUABREATH, WE'RE HERE! JUMP IN.
LET'S GO A LITTLE CLOSER BOOTCHUCK.
FINE!
HELP! HELP!
OK, JUMP IN NOW!
HU
YOU HEARD ME! I SAID: JUMP IN AND SAVE THAT POOR MAN. HE'S DROWNING AND ALL YOU CAN DO IS SIT THERE BLUBBERING! YOU CAN BREATH UNDERWATER! SAVE HIM!
HU
DON'T WORRY! I'M FINE
LISTEN BUCKO JUST MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
GULP
LISTEN, I CAN GET IN THE BOAT JUST FINE MYSELF. I'M NOT SUCH AN OLD TIMER.
THAT'S NOT THE POINT! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A TEAM OF SUPER-OH FORGET IT! JUST FORGET THE WHOLE DAMN THING!
LET'S GO!
CBATEMAN
THANK STOANT ONIAFR EYBESMI THFORHE RVERSIO. NOFTHEN PPLEFOU RLASTWEE K, WEARES ORRYABOUT THEHACKY SACKANDR ISK. N4

BREAKING POINT



GENIUS GEESE

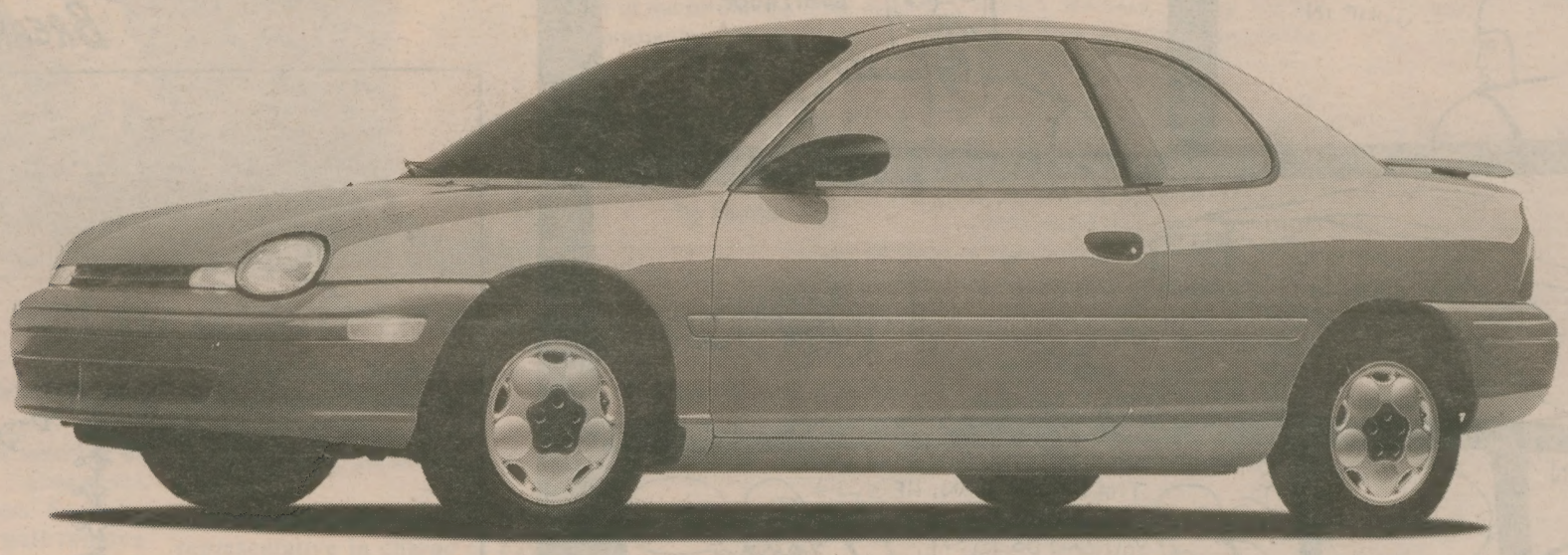

JEAN CLAUDE CHRETIEN
DERAR TWO OPCHUN FOR YOU: ONE, MAK JOBS FOR D'UNEMPLOY AND I TAKE YOU OUT; OR TWO, I JUS KICK YORARSE.
N. BEATTIE



neon Celeration:

The resulting movement of graduating students to a Chrysler dealership after reading they can receive an extra $750 rebate on a hot looking 2-door with a gutsy 132 horsepower engine.

Graduate rebate of $750 in addition to all current rebates†



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